

MAY 28, 1873.
LARGEST CIRCULATION OF ANY PUBLISHED IN EASTERN OREGON.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF
The Counties of
Baker and Grant.

Correspondence from all portions of Oregon is solicited for the DEMOCRAT. Communications, to receive attention, must be accompanied by a responsible name. Personal communications will be charged as special advertisements.

ARMS AND AMMUNITION.

Through the politeness of Judge L. O. Sterns of our city, we are enabled to lay the following letter before our readers.

OFFICE ADJUTANT GENERAL,
Portland, Ogn., May 20, 1873.
Hon. L. O. STERNS AND OTHERS, Baker City Oregon—GENTLEMEN:—The petition from your county directed to the Governor, asking arms and ammunition for protection in case of an emergency, has been sent to me to answer. The Governor has directed me to send you muzzle loading Springfield rifles and ammunition out of those on hand, and I will do so sometime this week. I have delayed this matter a few days in hopes I could procure from the Ordnance Department 60 or 80 breech loading rifles and cartridges; if I cannot get them I will send the ones ordered by the Governor. I will do all in my power to procure the breech loaders. Those received by the State have all been distributed by order of the Governor. I will write you again as soon as I learn what Gen'l Granger will do.

Very Respectfully,
Your Ob't Servant,
A. P. DENNISON,
Adj't Gen'l Oregon.

We have no doubt but that the Governor and Gen. Dennison will do all within their power to remedy the mistake that was made in the first distribution of arms, in which Baker county was overlooked. If there were any localities in Oregon where good and reliable arms and ammunition should have been sent, our citizens claim that Baker county is one of these places; and they also think that breech loaders might be of more service here, under certain circumstances, than they possibly can be in the city of Portland—if we are compelled to use clubs, a plentiful supply can be obtained from our forests. We are informed that the muzzle loaders referred to in the above letter have been condemned, and that the ammunition has been on hand ten or twelve years, and was considered damaged when it was procured. We hope this is not the case.

Since the above was in type we have been handed the following letter, which fully explains itself:

OFFICE ADJUTANT GENERAL,
Portland, Oregon, May 22d, 1873.

To County Judge, Baker County:—Sir—I have shipped to you this day, by order of the Governor, three cases containing sixty rifles, with such accouterments as I had on hand. Also, seven cases ammunition, containing seven thousand cartridges, in all ten packages. I regret I could not procure breech loading rifles for you, I done the best I could and you must take the will for the deed. The Governor requests me to say that your county will have to pay transportation on these arms, &c., and wait for re-embursement by appropriation by the next Legislature. Some of these rifles are rusty, but can be easily put in good order, they are a good arm, and I trust will prove of service to the settlers in your county. Please acknowledge receipt of these packages, &c.

Very respectfully,
Your ob't servant,
A. P. DENNISON,
Adj't Gen'l, State of Oregon.

Our citizens have no inclination to return thanks for these guns, and if it unfortunately should become necessary for them to protect their firesides, they prefer to use the arms with which nature has supplied them and which they know are reliable.

The Mountaineer of the 17th says: Mr. William Monroe, a member of the last State Senate from this county, died at his residence near Bridge Creek Postoffice on Sunday last. Mr. Monroe was a clever old gentleman, and his many friends will be sorry to learn of his death.

more flattering than it has been at the commencement of the mining season, for a number of years. We have talked with miners from almost all the surrounding camps, during the past week, and they all tell us that the prospect for a long and profitable working season is good.

SHASTA DISTRICT.
The big ditch, or rather canal, which runs through this district, known as the Malheur and Burnt River Ditch is now furnishing from four hundred to five hundred inches of water, which is sold to the miners at Malheur City, Eldorado and vicinity, and enables them to work a great many of their claims to advantage. Some of the miners in Shasta District have made clean-ups—and the pay received for their labor was full up to, if not over the expectations of the claim owners. The indications are that Eldorado and Malheur City will be lively camps this season and that a large amount of gold will be taken out there this season, and will pay the "honest miners" for the time they have spent in watching and opening their claims. We hope their fondest anticipations may be realized and that Shasta District will prove itself to be the friend of the miner.

MORMON BASIN.
The prospects in this camp are very favorable for a lively mining season. The snow on the surrounding mountains will give a good supply of water to work the rich claims that are known to be good, and we may expect good reports from this camp this season.

RYE VALLEY.
From this camp we have favorable information. The miners both in quartz and placer diggings anticipate a good time this season. The placer diggings especially it is thought, will yield good pay to those engaged in working them.

HOGEM.
The bullion we mentioned last week as being the result of ten days run of the Packwood & Stewart Mill, and coming out of 163 tons of rock, amounted to four thousand five or six hundred dollars, or at the rate of \$29. to the ton. This is good for the Summit Ledge as it is easily worked and the cost of getting the rock to the mill is but trifling, and leaves a good margin as profits.

A STARTLING PROPOSITION.

The preponderance of the fair sex in Massachusetts has of late years been gradually increasing, while the women, themselves, are becoming alarmed. The idea of enforced celibacy is so repugnant to their feelings that they are casting about in hope of discovering some remedy for the evil, and, as a last resort, conclude that polygamy, while it may be a curse elsewhere, would prove a blessing to the forlorn spinsters of the old Bay State.

The female operatives in the Lowell factories have taken the initiatory steps to bring this matter before the Massachusetts Legislature at its next session, and petitions are being circulated and extensively signed by them, praying for the passage of an act permitting plural marriages.—They state that the law which now governs society, practically, enjoins on all women to marry, but that the census shows it is impossible for them to do so, on account of the excess of women in that State; and that many of the men are "idle, vicious, incompetent, and otherwise unfit to be the heads of households." They argue that the restricting of a husband to one wife is only a matter of prejudice and custom, regardless of justice, and is unauthorized by the great Book which lies at the foundation of all law. That nowhere in the Bible can there be found an injunction against a plurality of wives, while many examples are found therein recorded in support of such doctrine. They desire that a law should be so framed as to permit the marriage of a man to more than one wife, in cases where the first wife makes no objection, and where it is evident that the man is able to support such additional burden.—They believe that the practical effect of the passage of such a law will be to do away with much of the social evil that now afflicts and distresses all communities, and announce that they are perfectly willing to be the first to engage in the great work of reform.

The Idaho World says: "This is

largely over the heads of females—then, on the same theory, a woman should be entitled to have two or three husbands. If not, then a large number of forlorn masculines would be debarred the pleasures of matrimony, and their condition would be as painful and distressing as that of the anxious spinsters of Massachusetts who, bewailing their life of enforced celibacy, now advocate the adoption of polygamy, in the hope of bettering their condition. But, seriously, the condition of these women is pitiful; and their willingness to accept even polygamy as a relief, evidences the cheerless and hopeless life they are living in their native State. If some of those humbug religious societies that annually collect thousands and tens of thousands of dollars for the purpose of sending bibles and clothes to the heathen of the Fiji and South Sea Islands, should direct their efforts toward bettering the condition of the unfortunate females in their midst, they would then be engaged in a commendable work, and be casting their bread upon the proper waters. Millionaire philanthropists of the East, by organizing a woman's aid immigration society, through which the surplus female population of the Eastern States could find comfortable homes, and husbands, in the Western States and Territories, would be engaged in a wholesale work of charity that would redound to their everlasting credit, and to the benefit of the country.

OUR MORMON BASIN LETTER.

MORMON BASIN, May 25th, 1873.

EDITOR DEMOCRAT:—A few brief extracts from our daily journal may not be uninteresting to your readers: Sunday, 18th.—The storm king visited us this morning, bringing with him a snow storm which lasted long enough to obscure "God's green earth" with a mantle of snow, giving the country, as far as the eye can reach, a wintry and chilly aspect.

Monday, 19th.—Snow flakes were seen falling at brief intervals during the day. Heavy winds prevailing from the north.

Tuesday 20th.—Alternate snow and sunshine. Strong winds from the west.

Wednesday, 21st.—Severe snow squalls, wind, north, and cold. Mercury protracted from the wind 33 degrees. On the south side of City Gulch where the severity of the wind was felt, icicles two feet long and two inches in diameter were formed during the previous night.

Thursday, 22d.—At an early hour this morning the sky with clouds was overcast, and snow began to fall. For some time it was difficult to discern a horse two hundred yards.—The wind came furiously from the north-west. The severity of the weather caused a cessation of labor among the miners. Our waggish disciple of Vulcan when asked what he thought of the weather, replied, "Its severity satisfies me beyond the shadow of a doubt that this locality was the one referred to by Dr. Watt when he said 'December's as pleasant as May.'" Such a cold backward spring, even at this altitude, which is probably 4000 feet above the sea, has never been experienced here by the "oldest inhabitant."

INDIANS.

The "friendly" Indians in squads of four and five have visited our camp the past two days, bartering deerskins for Uncle Sam's half dollars and store icktas. They made particular inquiries for powder with generous offers for the same, but were refused. Our merchants have the organ of acquisitiveness as largely developed as is generally found among that class of business men, and the contemplation of the Dutchman's "one per cent probably creates as pleasurable emotions in their breasts as anything this side of the gate of St. Peter, but this selling powder to the Lo family with the prospect of losing their scalps inside of three months is anything but pleasant to contemplate, besides they are "law abiding citizens."

There is no use of creating unnecessary alarm about this Indian matter, as "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty" it would be well for those having fire arms to put them in order, and keep them so, in case the Indians "mean business."

Yours, &c.,
OCCASIONAL.

UNION, May 25
EDITOR DEMOCRAT:—As every day here is quiet and peaceable, the day unusually pleasant, I tempted to write a short note to the DEMOCRAT.

The unusual amount of snow last winter and the spring rains of this season have produced a bountiful supply of grass; better than we have been blessed with for several years, and in consequence Grande Ronde stock are in fine condition. The epizootic has about disappeared among the horses, and has been giving some of our citizens a call. The most of them seem to like it because it makes them feel lazy and good. Anything to secure rest suits an Oregonian. Union has the epizootic so bad that it will not get over it until the Indian war is over. I don't mean to say they are cowardly or afraid to fight, far from it, for one of them went to La Grande on last Wednesday and gave a receipt for one of the guns forwarded by the Governor for the citizens of this County, and there was only about THIRTY went from the Cove for the same purpose. Now who DARE say Union won't fight? The reason they do not go to drill with Capt. Smith's Company, or attend his meetings, is because they have the epizootic, and there is no law that compels a man to fight when he is sick. Of the guns that arrived at La Grande on Wednesday—there was one hundred needle guns, and sixty Springfield muzzle loading rifles. They should be divided among our most deserving citizens about as follows: First our Co. Judge might retain one, then let Wallowa have 30, Cove—40, La-Grande—30, Summerville and Iowa—35, Indian Valley—8, Eagle Creek—15, Union—1. Union would be perfectly willing to turn out enmasse but they think it is not best for all to leave home at once, and besides, they are looking for the County Seat to be removed to this place and they all want to be here when it comes.

We are in need of a geologist, for we have found petrified oak in Antelope Valley, nine miles south of Union. The pores and each year's growth of the wood are very distinct—and the pieces found indicate that the trees were very large. Whenever our boys see a bear, they just "go for him," and have succeeded in bringing in two pelts this spring.

If we may judge by the number of scholars passing to and from school each day, we would say that the subscription school, being taught by Wm. Cates, is well patronized.

Yours, &c.,
JO. GNOMON.

RETURNED.—Mr. William Harper, who left Baker County last fall, for the Puget Sound country, in W. T. with the intention of settling permanently there, returned to our City on last Monday morning. He informs us that he comes back to Baker County satisfied to remain here; that he would not give this County for the whole Sound country; that everything is dead there and at a stand still. In all his travels he has not seen as lively locality as Baker City and County. Farms on the Sound, which are rated very high, as a general thing, are no better than can now be taken up in almost any locality in Baker County, as well as in other portions of Eastern Oregon. Several other parties who have been away from Baker in various directions, come back better pleased with our town and county than they were when they left. This speaks well for the present as well as the future prospects of our City and County.

AN OLD ESTABLISHED FIRM.—The firm of S. M. Pettengill & Co. commenced their Advertising Agency in the old Journal building, No 10, State Street, Boston, nearly a quarter of a century ago (February, 1849), where their Agency is still located, carrying on a large and successful business. They established a branch in New York City, May, 1872, which has grown to be larger than the parent house, increasing steadily, year by year, until now it has the agency of nearly every newspaper in the United States and British Provinces, and does a yearly business of hundreds of thousands of dollars. S. M. Pettengill & Co. have recently opened another branch office at 701 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, where they are doing a successful increasing business. They have done advertising exceeding ten millions of dollars since commencing business. This firm is favorably known not only throughout this country, but in all parts of the world. They have established a reputation for honorable and fair dealing which any firm might envy, and but few have attained to. We congratulate them upon their success. We would recommend all who want advertising done in any part of the country to call upon them. The can point to hundreds of business men who have followed their advice, and trusted to their sagacity, and availed themselves of their facilities, who have made fortunes for themselves, and they are assisting others in the same path.—Boston Journal, May 8th.

Bellingham Bay stone will be used in constructing the Washington Territory Penitentiary.

And the citizens of
BAKER COUNTY
relieved from paying tribute
to San Francisco and Portland
land by the establishment of a

WHOLESALE
AND
RETAIL

LIQUOR ESTABLISHMENT
IN

BAKER CITY,

by
W. WILDE,

Who takes pleasure in informing all those interested, that he has a

LARGE AND WELL SELECTED STOCK
of the
BEST BRANDS

OF
WHISKY,
(from \$2 to \$9 per Gallon);

BRANDY,
(from \$2 to \$12 per Gallon);

GIN, RUM, and
Fine Wines!

He also keeps a Common article, so as to suit the Trade, constantly on hand, and

LARGE INVOICES
to arrive MONTHLY, which he offers at

LOWER PRICES

AT

WHOLESALE,
than Small Dealers can lay them down for at this point.

also
A full assortment of
CIGARS,

PLAYING CARDS,
and Everything in His Line, which he will sell at

LIVING RATES.

Remember the place, the
BREWERY SALOON,
Baker City, Oregon.

All orders carefully filled,
N. B.—He has Liquors suitable for Medicinal Purposes.

Give me a Call.
W. WILDE.
Baker City, April 16, 1873.n49m1

JAS. W. VIRTUE,
BAKER CITY, OREGON,
BROKER AND ASSAYER,
DEALER
In Gold Dust,
—AND—
GOLD AND SILVER BARS,
—ALSO—
EXCHANGE OF GREENBACKS.

Office—First door north Odd Fellow's Hall.
[n49v2tf]

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

OUR SOLE AGENT FOR
Baker County, Oregon, is
THOMAS W. PORTER
Of Eldorado, Baker County, Oregon,
who always has on hand an assortment of
Dr. J. Ball & Co.'s
NEW PATENT IMPROVED
Ivory and Lignum Vitae
EYE-CUPS,
And Myopic Attachments.
Call immediately, and have your Eye Sight Restored. Waste no more Money by adjusting huge glasses on your nose, and disfiguring your face.
On receipt of \$5.50 I will send one pair of Lignum Vitae Eye Cups to any address in Baker County, and for \$12.50 I will send one pair of Ivory Eye Cups to any address in Baker County. Address,
THOMAS W. PORTER,
Eldorado, Oregon.
n3n16

THE NEW HAVEN ORGAN CO.
Manufacture the Celebrated
Jubilee and Temple ORGANS,
These Organs are unsurpassed in quality of tone, style of finish, simplicity of construction, and durability.
Also, MELODEONS in various styles, and unequalled in tone.
Send for Illustrated Catalogue.
Address NEW HAVEN ORGAN CO.,
New Haven, Conn.
Agents Wanted. n3n16

THE "VICTOR" S. M. CO.'S
NEW SEWING MACHINE
"VICTOR"
Runs very Easy,
Runs very Fast,
Has a New Shuttle superior to all others.
Defies Competition.
Great Improvements in Needles.
Cannot be Set Wrong.
Agents Wanted. Address
"THE VICTOR" S. M. CO.,
n3n16 862 Broadway, N. Y.

STONE MASONS & STONE CUTTERS WANTED.
THE UNERSIGNED WILL PAY
the Best Wages for 10 or 12 Stone Masons. Work will last about three months.
ROBERTS & NELSON.
Baker City April 28, 1873.n51tf

PAY UP!!
ALL PERSONS INDEBTED TO A. H. Brown are respectfully requested to come forward and settle their accounts, either by Cash or note, immediately.
A word to the wise is sufficient.
Baker City, March 26, 1873. n46tf

Improve Your Poultry!!
It costs no more to keep good Fowls than poor ones.
Caklan Poultry Yards,
Cor. 16th & Castro Sts., Oakland, Cal.

Season of 1873.
EGGS FOR HATCHING FROM THE
largest and Best Bird Fowls in the World, carefully packed in Patent Boxes and guaranteed to carry safely any distance.
The variety comprises Dark and Light Brahmas, Buff, Black, White and Partridge Cochins, White Leghorns, Houdans, Silver and Golden Spangled Hamburgs, Game and Silver Spangled Polish, Black Spanish, Green Peas, and Aylesbury Ducks, Bronze Turkeys, and Beltrich and Game Benutans.
Send stamp for Illustrated Circular to Geo. B. Bayley, Importer and breeder of Choice Poultry, P. O. Box 659, San Francisco, also, agent for the Poultry World, a monthly illustrated journal, devoted entirely to Poultry; tells how to keep Fowls for profit; a complete repository of information on the subject. Subscription only \$1 25 a year. Agents wanted in every town in the State. Address P. O. Box 659, San Francisco.
Please state in what paper you saw this advertisement. n46n6

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Strauss' Waltzes
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Ask for Peters' Edition.
Paper Copy sent, post paid, for \$1.50; in Boards, \$2. Address,
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A Collection of Glee, Part-Songs, Choruses, etc., for
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