

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

MINING NEWS.

We are informed that the mines at Eldorado and Malheur cities, as a general thing, are paying well this season. The boys have plenty of money to pay water bills and enough left afterwards to satisfy ordinary men for good wages.

The Eldorado or Big Ditch.

This ditch is ninety-seven miles long, with a capacity for carrying 2,000 inches of water when thoroughly puddled, which is now being done. The ditch is six feet on the bottom—eight and a half on maximum of grade, with a depth of three feet. The water is taken out of Burnt River, at the head of the ditch, and the tributaries of Burnt River, along the line of the ditch act as feeders, and keep up the original head of water—that is, supplies what is lost by seepage. After the ditch becomes thoroughly puddled and settled there will be little seepage, and a full head of water can be let in; the ditch is now, we understand, carrying about eight hundred or one thousand inches of water, all of which is sold at remunerative prices, and the quantity now run in the ditch does not supply one third of the demand. This ditch is the means by which water will have to be obtained to work a very large scope of mining ground, which extends almost the whole length of it, but at present all the water is sold at and near Eldorado and Malheur cities.

We understand the ditch this season is paying handsome profits on the money invested in its construction, and ultimately this is bound to be the best paying property in Oregon, and will compare favorably with any on the coast, as a permanent investment of capital.

The country that can be supplied by this ditch extends at least 40 miles, and water to work the mines in this locality can be secured from no other source. The Ditch is on one of the highest divides, and can supply water on both sides of the divide—that is to the Burnt River and Willow Creek sides. This Ditch was originally known as the Burnt River Ditch which was purchased, we believe, in 1870, by Mr. J. H. Johnson, who since that time has been actively at work, with all the means at his command, in improving, enlarging and extending the original Ditch, until now it is a Canal through which rafts of lumber can be carried from the saw mills on the head of the Ditch to market at Eldorado and Malheur Cities. The rates of water from this Ditch, we are informed, are 25 cents per inch for first head for ten hours; fifteen cents per inch for second heads, and ten cents per inch for third heads.

AGRICULTURAL.—In another column will be found a communication in relation to the organization of an Agricultural Society in this County. Several farmers, as well as others, have suggested that meeting be called for the 4th of July, at Baker City, to effect an organization of such a society. In accordance with such suggestion let the farmers and others interested in this matter get together immediately after the Basket Dinner at Fisher's Grove, and organize an Agricultural Society for Baker County.

THE FOURTH.—From all indications it is thought that the Celebration of the Fourth, on next Friday, will call together the largest concourse of people at Baker City, that have ever convened at one place in Eastern Oregon. Everybody is coming, and all who can will bring their baskets filled with provisions.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—The Public Schools of this county are respectfully invited to join in the procession on the 4th. The teachers with their scholars will report and meet at the Court House at 9 o'clock a. m. of that morning, where they will be assigned their place in the procession.

The Modoc Massacre—The Hero.

By reference to our Washington letter it will be seen that A. B. Meacham is giving a version to the late Modoc Massacre, wherein Gen. Canby was murdered, in which he is trying to make it appear that A. B. Meacham was the hero of the occasion. To the citizens of Oregon the version given by this man Meacham, is a new one, and as related by him is not believed by any of our citizens. He states that he was convinced that treachery was intended by Captain Jack, and used his endeavors to persuade Gen. Canby and Dr. Thomas, with the rest of the Peace Commission, not to keep the appointment, but after they decided to keep the appointment, he being a brave, could not stay away. He now says he was satisfied Capt. Jack meant treachery—before the transaction he was satisfied Capt. Jack was an honorable man, and so informed the commissioners, and no doubt, it was upon his representations that the Peace Commission determined to keep the appointment, and it is almost a moral certainty that A. B. Meacham was the indirect cause of the death of Gen. Canby and Dr. Thomas. As to the wounds received by this man Meacham, it is believed, on the best of authority, that he did not receive more than one wound from the hands of an Indian—it is believed that the scalp wound and the little bumps on his head were from the effect of his legs getting weak and letting his body down too heavily on the sharp rocks that are to be found at the lava bed. It is not believed here that Seonchin or any other Indian ever tried to raise his hair, or that he ever tried to or that he did shoot Seonchin with his Derringer. It is known that Seonchin was not wounded at that time, and, therefore, Meacham's statement that he shot him in the abdomen was untrue. If he used his Derringer at all it is nothing but fair to presume that the muzzle was turned towards himself and inflicted the only gun shot wound that can be found on the person of A. B. Meacham, and now he will want the Government to give him a pension for a wound inflicted by the unsteadiness of his own hand. Oh! What a hero A. B. Meacham is trying to make of himself! The people of Oregon laugh at his vain attempts and treat the matter as a great humbug only fit to be concocted by the brain of such a man, who may be able to gull the people of the East where he is not known, but he cannot fool those who know him as well as the people of Oregon do.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

BAKER CITY, June 28th, 1873.

MR. EDITOR:—I think an Agricultural Society in Baker County is much needed. There is a want of interest with both farmers and mechanics, also, every class of people to improve or excel in their business whatever it may be. The student, from the time he enters the district school until he graduates at college, is benefited by the little prompters that often call his mind to some future test.

If the people of Baker County will form an Agricultural Society to be held once a year, and meet directly after harvest, bringing every kind of animals and fowls, from the native chicken to the thorough bred Black Hawk. Every class of mechanics a piece of his work; also, the ladies everything from a pin cushion to a carpet. Bread, butter and cheese, which of course will all be entitled to a premium. It will be a long step towards improvement and will be visible at once. It gives the young, both boys and girls, a chance and an interest to improve upon the old. It also gives employment to the mind as well as the hands, and is pleasant and profitable to all.

E. H. B.

STOP IT.—Some person is in the habit of going to the Express Office, and taking our exchanges from the counter there without our knowledge or consent. This occasions us great inconvenience, and we are satisfied that the man who is guilty of this pilfering is no gentleman. If it is not stopped we will be under the necessity of giving his name.

J. H. JOHNSON, of the Eldorado Ditch, returned from Portland, last week, after an absence of some two or three weeks. Harvey looks well in his fighting trim, and we think the people down in Webfoot treated our friend first rate. We are glad to have him back with us attending to the interests of the Ditch Company.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, JUNE 17th, 1873.

About the Modocs.

I passed a pleasant half hour this morning with A. B. Meacham, of the Indian Peace Commission, who was one of the unfortunate party beguiled into the "talk" with Captain Jack at which General Canby lost his life and Meacham was severely wounded. Meacham owes his life mainly to the fact that he had taken the precaution to carry to the "talk" with him a loaded Derringer, the contents of which he lodged in the bowels of Seonchin Jim as the latter was in the act of scalping him. The Commissioner will carry to the grave with him a frightful scar across his head already made by the savage when he was dissuaded by the trusty Derringer from completing his work. There would seem to be no doubt that Captain Jack shot Canby. Meacham is preparing an official report of the entire proceedings of the Peace Commission which will be ready in a few days for presentation to the Secretary of the Interior.

The ex-Minister from Japan.

A Yeddo correspondent of the New York Tribune devotes a large portion of his last letter to that paper to defaming the character of Arinori Mori, the late Charge d'Affaires from Japan to the United States. As the writer does not give the name or official position of any of his informants, and as reticence is one of the marked characteristics of all grades of government officers in Japan, the presumption is that he picked up his information from disappointed American adventurers who had sought but failed to obtain Mori's endorsement of their respective projects for turning a nimble penny at the expense of his government, and had to try their luck in Japan without his coveted introduction. All the time Mori was here he had five times as much work to do as any other foreign minister. He was required to investigate and report upon our systems of agriculture, finance and education, our postal system, our methods of collecting duties on imports, our internal revenue system, our general laws, and even our religious sects. He had, in short, to do anything and everything that was required of him, even to the supervision of the education of a number of young persons of both sexes sent over here by the Japanese government. And all this in addition to the usual routine work of a legation, and without as many assistants as other foreign ministers who had no extra official duties to perform.

From morning till night he used to be besieged by men of every variety of calling—sewing machine men, railroad men, newspaper men, hotel men, doctors, teachers, circus men, ministers of every denomination, fiddlers, spiritual mediums, tailors, shoemakers, free lovers—in short the representatives of every useful, useless, and worse than useless calling—all eager of course, to contribute to the speedy civilization of Japan. Mori would receive these people courteously, and listen to them patiently, but would very properly decline to accede to their modest requests for letters of introduction to his sovereign; so those of them who went to Japan afterwards went there inimical to him. Hence, I believe, these reports. Many of the rejected applicants for office in Japan, or for letters of introduction, circulated stories prejudicial to Mori among the members of the Japanese special embassy which was here last fall; and that, perhaps, had some effect, as one or two of them were his political rivals. I have been more or less intimate, in my time, with many public men of various nations, but never with any man so young as Arinori, more industrious and capable, more studious and wisely progressive, more continent and temperate than I know him to be, or more honest than I believe him to be. Be it remembered that this young man is only twenty eight years of age. It may be proper to remark that I never received the smallest personal favor from Mr. Mori, while I rendered him many. He was slow to contract friendships, but I had the good fortune to be presented to him by Mr. Sumner, whom he held in high esteem, and our acquaintance soon ripened into a scholarly intimacy which has prompted me to this defence of my absent friend from an anonymous attack that has already commenced "going the rounds of the press." The Japanese legation is now in charge of Mr. Samro Takaki, formerly its Chief Secretary. Mr.

Takaki is a young man of studious and industrious habits, and devotes his entire time to his official duties and the acquisition of a knowledge of our institutions which will be useful to his government. He is generally regarded as a safe man for his government to keep here, and his courtesy and extreme modesty make him a general favorite.

The Patrons of Husbandry.

The third term men are bound to use every effort to manipulate this organization for their purposes, and the fiat has gone forth from Washington to federal officials all over the West that they must immediately join a Grange. Efforts are also being made to buy up the leaders, or those who call themselves the leaders, of the several workingmen's organizations. Two or three of these men have been already provided with positions in the departments—petty offices. Those among them who are willing to sell themselves can be had cheap; but they are in no sense the leaders of any body of workingmen.

A. F. B.

OUR UNION LETTER.

UNION, Ogn., June 29th, 1873.

EDITOR DEMOCRAT:—We are now having in this valley as pleasant weather as heart could wish. Visited as we are, each day, by a gentle breeze from the north, we have as pleasant a place for summer as can be found on the coast. The only thing we can complain of now, is the mosquitoes or "gal-nippers." 'Gal nippers' are thicker in this country this year, than usual.

I notice several stock buyers in our midst, looking at our stock, but apparently not very anxious to buy, and our stock men seem to be in no great hurry to sell at the low figures that stock is now rated. People must not think that the citizens of Grande Bonde are in a starving condition just because money is scarce. There will be several picnics in and around this valley on the 4th of July and all seem to anticipate a good time.

I have struck a query—not a stone quarry—but a queer query. Inasmuch as the vicinity of Union and the Cove have of late been receiving some notice through the columns of the DEMOCRAT, and a few items from this country have made their appearance through the DEMOCRAT before the short sighted, inkslinging goosequillist of the Sentinel could publish the same, he puts the following

QUERY.—Why don't you, Jo. Gnomon, find your local items, write them up for the Bedrock Democrat and have them published in time for us to copy into the SENTINEL, instead of re-writing local news from our columns for your favorite paper?—Then you might be of service both to the DEMOCRAT and the SENTINEL.

Now, Mr. Editor of the Sentinel, it would be so nice if you could only edit your side of the paper with the scissors instead of the pen. Perhaps you have to a certain extent since Jo. Gnomon became a correspondent of the DEMOCRAT, for your locals.

The following are a few instances in which Jo. Gnomon found the items himself, instead of "re-writing the locals from your columns" as you assert, and were first published in the DEMOCRAT, then in the Sentinel:

1st. In the DEMOCRAT of May 7th, an item, then afterward in the Sentinel. 2nd—One on May 21st, afterwards in the Sentinel. 3rd—June 18th another which you published on the 21st. Then on June 19th we forwarded an item, through another person, to the Sentinel, and sent the same to the DEMOCRAT which was published afterwards in the Sentinel; and now appears still another in your paper, that was given in the last issue of the DEMOCRAT.

Now, Mr. Editor of the Sentinel, you may, if you like, let your readers know through you columns, after it has appeared in the DEMOCRAT, that the Commissioners Berry, Mathey and Cox, have returned from Wallowa, and will report to the Secretary of the Interior as soon as they reach Salem. I see you have found out that strawberries are ripe, which we all knew two weeks ago; and also, that Lou Remillard has succeeded his brother Ed in business at Union, and as the change was made not over three months ago, of course its news. Newsically and Itemizingly Thine, JO. GNOMON.

WM. HARPER has been appointed Deputy Sheriff to act in the Eastern portion of our county—his residence is at Eldorado. He paid us a visit last Monday, looking well and heartily.

LATE NEWS.

FORT KLAMATH, June 22.—via Ashland, June 23.—Matters are quiet at this post. The only event of importance since the departure of my last telegram is the transfer of the post command to Major Harry Hasbrouck, of the Fourth Artillery, who will remain here with his light battery until the commission has concluded its business and the Modocs are disposed of. In the vernacular of this region, we are having "a great deal of weather," mostly rain, snow and wind.

EUREKA, Nev., June 23.—At 5 o'clock this morning, two miners in the Eureka Consolidated mine, named John George and George Dobbs, got on the cage at the first station, while it was disconnected from the engine. The brakes gave way and the cage fell to the bottom of the shaft, a distance of two hundred and twenty-six feet. George was killed, and Dobbs had both legs and arms broken. He cannot recover. No blame attaches to any one belonging to the Company.

NEW YORK, June 22.—A telegram was received yesterday, by the Director of the Mint, from the Superintendent of the San Francisco Mint, saying there are numerous inquiries for the new trade dollar, a large quantity being wanted for shipment to China on the 15th of July. The Director replied that they cannot be sent to San Francisco before the 6th or 10th of July, therefore the demand cannot be immediately supplied.

NEW YORK, June 22.—Stokes' new trial will not occur during the present term of the Court of Oyer and Terminer, which throws it over to October. It has been decided to make no effort for bail, it is said the defense will rely upon medical testimony, which was so effective in the first trial, and will raise a plea of self defense.

The Times has a report that the Directors of the Pacific Mail Steamship Co. yesterday resolved to issue any required per cent of the \$3,000,000 to pay the necessary obligations for new vessels, etc. The bonds are first to be offered to stockholders.

LONDON, June 22.—The steamer Columbus, from Dublin for Holyhead, ran ashore on St. Keyne Rock to-day, and afterwards broke in two amidships.

ROME, June 22.—The Pope is to deliver an allocution on Monday, and the excommunication of King Victor Emanuel is expected to be pronounced.

General Longstreet was once the idol of the Southern people. Now, a New Orleans letter says: "Our best citizens refuse to speak to him; ladies draw their skirts to one side in passing him upon the streets as if he were a leper. In the eyes of the New Orleans aristocracy he has sunk too low to be noticed. In the public meetings he is denounced as a traitor, a renegade, a black-hearted deserter of his people, and, in fact, every epithet is thrown at him that malice can paint or ingenuity can invent. But none of these provokes a response from Longstreet. He goes his way, courteous but sad, turning neither to the right nor to the left, and paying no attention to the mud thrown at him."

THE LEE MONUMENT.—Mr. J. R. Lake, of Clarksville, is the agent for this section to procure subscriptions to the R. E. Lee Monument Fund.—He will be in this city the latter part of this week to procure subscriptions to the Fund. Every subscriber for one share will receive a full life sized portrait of the great warrior and statesman, which is well worth the price of each share. The object for which this fund is being raised is truly a worthy one, and we hope Mr. Lake may have good success in procuring subscriptions in this and Union Counties, both of which he is agent for and will visit soon.

We return our thanks to M. H. Abbott, Esq., for a brace of nice, young sage hens.

The partnership between Webber and Fisher, of this city, has been dissolved.

Married

At the residence of J. P. Ross, Esq., by Rev. A. J. Joslyn, June 24th, 1873, Mr. James Fletcher to Miss Mary J. McMurran, all of Baker City, Oregon.

The happy bride and groom have the best wishes of all the good people of our City, and they, with us wish that their cup of happiness may never be "drugged," and that they may enjoy a long and prosperous life.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Stone Cutting and Building.

Messrs. Roberts & Nelson would respectfully inform the people of Baker City, and vicinity, that they are prepared to build foundations for houses, cellars, sidewalks, as well as larger structures, and will attend to any work of this kind at a. l. time.

Public Notice.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT I will not be responsible for any debts contracted by my son, James M. Dean. He is 18 years of age, and has been doing business for himself for the past year, and I have given him his time. The public will take notice of the above and govern themselves accordingly. Lower Powder River, June 24, 1873. n8n11 S. M. DEAN.

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 [n49v2c]

1876. 1873.



CELEBRATION

OF THE

NINETY-SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY

OF OUR

NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE

THE CITIZENS OF BAKER CITY and Powder River Valley intend to celebrate the coming Anniversary of American Independence by a

Grand Procession,

Reading of the

Declaration of Independence,

BY

MR. JOHN I. STURGILL,

And an Oration by

Mr. T. C. Hyde,

After which there will be a

BASKET DINNER,

Under the supervision of the following Committee of Ladies:

Mrs. J. W. Virtue, L. O. Sterns, J. E. Grover, W. F. McCrary, S. Grier, C. M. Foster, Eliza Gray, J. W. Cleaver, A. H. Brown and Mrs. Thos. Finlayson, to act in conjunction with a like Committee to be appointed from the ladies of the Valley.

FISHER'S GROVE

Is the place selected to hold the Celebration and the following gentlemen were appointed as the Ground Committee: Messrs. C. Fisher, H. Bamberger, S. Ottenheimer, D. McCord and Dr. Snow.

The Finance and Music Committees consist of the following gentlemen: Dr. Snow, W. Virtue, S. B. McCord, Fred. A. Bonn, W. F. Levis and James Fletcher. The Music for the occasion will be furnished by the

LA GRANDE

AND

BAKER CITY

BRASS BANDS.

The Citizens of Union, as well as those of Baker County, are respectfully requested to join in this Celebration.

Anniversary Ball,

Will be given at the

COURT HOUSE

IN

BAKER CITY,

On the Evening of

July Fourth,

Which will be the Great Ball of the Season.

Committee of Reception:

L. O. STERNS, A. H. BROWN,

I. D. HAINES, P. A. BONAR,

JAMES FLETCHER, J. M. SHEPHERD,

HON. J. D. McFARLAND.

Floor Managers:

J. W. VIRTUE, S. B. McCORD,

C. M. FOSTER, R. H. McCORD.

The Music will be the best that can be procured. Every effort will be made to make this ball a complete success.

Dissolution Notice.

The Partnership heretofore existing between Anthony Moore, Amasa W. Moore and Albert C. Moore, under the firm name of A. Moore & Bros. has been dissolved by mutual consent. Anthony Moore is authorized to receive and receipt for all moneys due said firm. A. MOORE & BROS. May 1, 1873.-n6n9

Sheriff's Sale.

BY VIRTUE OF AN EXECUTION issued out of the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for Grant County, and to me directed and delivered, for a Judgment rendered in said Court, on the second day of June, A. D. 1873, in favor of Joseph Messenger and against George J. Hobson, for the sum of Nine Hundred and Twenty-four Dollars, Limes, together with Thirty-seven Dollars and twelve cents, taxed costs, and all accruing costs, I have levied on the following property to-wit: The south half of the southwest quarter, and the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter, and the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section Eighty-two Township 15, South of Grant County, Oregon, East of the Willamette Meridian, together with the tenements and appurtenances thereto belonging. All of the above-mentioned property being situated in Jackson Day Valley, Grant County, Oregon. Notice is hereby given, that on the

Thirty-First Day of July,

A. D. 1873, at the hour of 10 o'clock, A. M., I will sell at the right, title and interest of said George J. Hobson in and to the above described property, at the Court House Door, in Baker City, Grant County, Oregon, at Public Auction, for cash to hand, to the highest and best bidder, satisfy said execution and all costs. WILLIAM P. GRAY, Sheriff.

n8n12

Lime! Lime! Lime!

Roberts & Nelson have on hand Lime of good quality, and will sell at low rates. Orders from a distance solicited.