

WEEKLY CORVALLIS GAZETTE.

Corvallis, July 29, 1881.

MAUNA LOA.

VOLCANIC FIRES ON THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

The steamer City of New York, which arrived at San Francisco on the 14th, brings the latest news from Honolulu. The Gazette of July 8th, speaking of the volcanic fires on Mauna Loa, says: "The past week has been one of great excitement in Hilo, in consequence of the renewed activity in the volcanic fires on Mauna Loa. One arm of the fiery stream has pushed itself into the Kukuau gulch, and is within three miles of the village of Hilo. All Hilo may be said to have visited the flow during the last few days. Men, women and children, some on foot and some on horse-back, have made the pilgrimage. As seen on Wednesday, June 29th, it presented a view never to be forgotten. A mile above the lower end of the stream the lava was flowing in a liquid, living torrent, some thirty feet wide along its course, consuming everything in its way. From this point half a mile of the seething, struggling torrent could be seen. The belt covered with lava was some 500 feet wide, all hot, and liable at any moment to break out into renewed activity. At night the scene was awfully grand beyond description. The sky has been brilliantly illuminated for nights past. It is now one of the worlds great wonders, and will well repay the journey of those who appreciate the grand and awful in the works of Nature." Under date of June 30th the sheriff of Hawaii writes from Hilo: "I fear that we are on the brink of a great calamity. The lava stream has at last broken out of the woods immediately above Waiakia and the fish pond, and that portion of Hilo, including possibly the harbor, cannot escape except by a miracle. Last Saturday gradually increasing action was noticed, and Sunday the lava broke out of the woods, and getting into a small water-course, came rushing down in the direction of Kukua and Kalipohopoh at great speed. Monday I visited the scene of the flow, and it was truly a terrific sight to see two streams, of lava almost as liquid as water rushing down the beds of streams, pouring over fertile land and carrying destruction with it everywhere. The roar of burning grass and ferns, the explosions and concussions were fearful. While we were watching it, about three hours, the stream progressed some four hundred feet. It cannot be more than two miles from the sea in a direct line. A continuous stream of people are going and returning. It seems almost incredible that a lava stream is so near us, but it is, alas, too true. One part of the town seems safe; but if the stream gets into the bay, it will doubtless destroy it, and all the people in that vicinity will be ruined and homeless. This morning the report from the flow is that action at the lower end is somewhat abated, but further up it continues as violent as ever. It is probably only a temporary lull." The opening scene is also described by another correspondent: "About June 22d the old mountain was observed to be more than usually active, the whole summit crevasses pouring forth immense volumes of smoke. By Friday noon the three southern arms had all joined into one, and rushing into a deep but narrow gulch forced its way down the gulch in a rapid flow. By Saturday noon it had run a mile. The flow was on an average seventy-five feet wide and from ten to thirty feet in depth, as it filled the gulch up level with its banks. The sight was grand. The whole frontage was one mass of liquid lava, carrying on its surface huge cakes of partially-cooled lava. Soon after we reached it the flow reached a deep hole some ten or fifteen feet in depth with perpendicular sides. The sight as it poured over that fall in two cascades was magnificent. The flow was then moving at the rate of about seventy-five feet an hour. If it goes through Kukuau probably all the lower or front part of the town will fall a prey to Madame Pele."

The Jacksonville Sentinel says: The other day we took the trouble of counting up the number of cripples in this county, and how they came to be such. We found eight that had only one arm, and five who had lost one or more of their fingers. There are quite a number that have only one eye, but we could not ascertain how many there are of this class. What is most remarkable in the above cases is, that three-fourths of them became cripples for life by the careless handling of fire-arms. The gunning season is just at hand, and sportsmen would do well to take warning from the above showing.

IN LINN COUNTY.

A number of things a traveler from here saw while on a trip over that county last week.

We were pleased to notice the fine prospects for a good crop of hay, wheat, oats, barley, potatoes and hops. Of the latter, the few fields seen promise well, and of the wheat and oats crop they all think it better and more of it than last year. Heard of little rust and that mostly on the blade instead of the stem, hence but little injury to the growing grain, and it is confined to spring wheat as the winter wheat is too far advanced to be affected by rust. In fact quite a number of farmers were engaged in cutting the fall wheat, many using the twine binders.

The question with many appears to be where will they find sufficient storage room, as most of the warehouses are part full of last year's crop. One encouraging feature in the grain business is the prospect that prices will advance a little in the fall, at least the present state of the market and freight supply indicates an advance, but it may be small. Scarcely any farmer expects \$1 per bushel this year.

At Peoria they need a store. They have two good warehouses on the river, and a live trader might find it a fair opening for the merchandise and grain business. H. Rudd, near Peoria, just returned from a pleasure trip to the Wood river quartz mines and brought some fine specimens of silver bearing galena, and predicts that these mines will turn out large quantities of silver bullion within a few years.

At Shedd's times seem to be improving. Messrs Davis Bro's have a large stock of goods, and are putting up a large sale and stock barn. They have a large and flourishing school, and propose to have a graded school this fall. Dr. Fisher proposes to buy the drug store, and Morgan will put up a hotel. The Boston mills are turning out lots of flour, and then there are various shops, telegraph and postoffice, all surrounded by a fine farming district. D. P. Porter near Shedd, sold the balance of his last wheat crop at Albany for 70cts per bushel. Mr. Wheeler has a fine warehouse on the railroad ready to handle large amounts of grain.

We took a ride with Mr. Davis through a constant succession of waving grain fields, and by many white cottages, apparent abodes of thrift, a distance of nine miles to Brownsville, which with the new railroad presents an air of unusual activity. Swarms of men from the factory, the various mills, citizens, travelers and strangers, at meal time principally in and around the Brownsville hotel kept by J. B. Irvine, one of the best landlords in the country. During the past year many improvements were added to north Brownsville among which we noted a fine town hall, new livery stable, one very fine residence and several plain but comfortable ones, improvements and new machinery at the factory, new store building and very large ware house at depot, large addition to the Brownsville hotel, and many minor additions. In fact B. is putting on town air quite rapidly and will support them gracefully.

The N. G. railroad is being pushed on to Coburg, 17 miles above Brownsville. They are laying steel rails, 31 pounds to the yard, and will have the road completed this fall.

Tangent is looking up too; fine addition built on the old warehouse, making room for about 30,000 bushels of the new crop, besides a large amount of old wheat now in store's two small stores, shops, church and school. During the year some dwellings were added, and now they talk of voting a tax for a new school room and make it a free school nine months each year.

A correspondent of the New York Sun, who found Mark Twain on the roof of his house with a long pole in his hand, watching the comet, reports Mark as saying: "They are all wrong about that tail. I've ciphered on that tail until I understand every inch of it. It's absurd to suppose that the tail isn't solid and pretty tough, too. Do you imagine that this comet could go bulging through space at the rate of two hundred miles a minute without knocking spots out of a tail that was vapor?"

Tie a fog bank on to the rear end of a New York and Boston 4 o'clock express, start her off at even forty miles an hour and see how long your fog bank will travel in company with your locomotive. Yet they ask us to swallow this infernal nonsense the comet's tail. My observation of this fellow, and also of Coggia's comet, seven years ago, have convinced me that comets' tails are fasten-

ed on tight, and are of a fibrous and durable nature, like Hartford beef-stake." "And what do you propose to do with your pole?" "Great Caesar! With a tail forty-two million miles long, three million miles thick, and tough as whip leather, don't you see the necessity for keeping a cool-headed and muscular man on deck here to fend off, in case the cursed thing whisks this water."

SMALL FARMS PAY BEST.

A speaker at a land league meeting held in Chicago a few days since, said that the curse of landlordism might yet be felt in America. He said there was an estate of thirty thousand acres in Illinois owned by an Irishman who lived in London. "The dead line where the property begins can easily be distinguished," said the speaker. "Outside can be seen the cottages of those who own their own houses, while inside are the hovels erected by the tenantry. What has been done all over Ireland for generations is now being done in this country." Landlordism is no new thing even in this country where land is so plentiful. It was a leading question in New York fifty years ago and has since subsided under the tendency to break up large holdings. The individual grasp of the people in this country are more profitable than large estates cultivated by tenants. Large farms near all the principal cities are being divided into garden patches, and are much more profitable to owners than they could ever have been under the landlord system. Ex-Speaker Randall said the other day that a farm in the vicinity of Philadelphia was utterly beyond his means. Farms had been divided up and sold in patches at prices which no one thought of attaching to land twenty years ago. The tendency all over the country, as population becomes dense, is to small farms. The land owner can sell to better advantage than he can rent. The enterprising and self-reliant character of the people has something to do with this tendency.

STATE NEWS.

There are about 80 men employed on the Cascade locks at present.

It is said that a pool of 250,000 lbs of wool will be shipped direct to the east from southern Oregon.

Says the Astorian: The government is at last taking steps to throw the Malheur reservation open to settlement by the white man.

It is said that a will recently probated at New Orleans contained only the following: "Mrs. Sophia Tector is my heiress." The property willed was worth \$100,000.

An insect of some kind has been destroying wheat in Yamhill county at a fearful rate, cutting the stock off at the surface of the ground.

Two of Mr. N. Smith's boys were attacked by panthers last week, on Coos River. They succeeded in scaring them off by throwing rocks at them.—Coos Bay News.

Mr. William Ledgerwood lost a bright little girl last week—dying of brain and spinal inflammation—and they have the sympathies of the whole community.—Plaindealer.

Mr. Z. J. Hatch stepped on a rolling stone, which suddenly turned causing him to slip and sprain his ankle. He has been confined to his room ever since the accident.

Work on the asylum building at Salem is about at a stand because the weather has been so unfavorable that Mr. Collins, the contractor to furnish brick, has been unable to supply the demand.

George Daly, who for some time past has been superintendent of Little Chief, Colorado Chief and other prominent mines in Leadville, Colorado, recently disposed of a mine in New York City upon which he cleared \$100,000.

It is reported that a man Robinson was lately kicked in the abdomen by a vicious horse at Heppner, and died from the effects two days after. Another man whose name was Reed, who had been drinking heavily, was found dead in the hotel at that place.

Mr. Thos. Miller formerly a resident of Eugene City died at Drains station on the 16th inst., at the age of 75 years. He was an old and well respected citizen and was buried by Eugene City Lodge, A. F. & A. M. of which he was a member at the time of his death.

Charles Walker, while working in the hay field for Mr. Winniford, who lives on the Calapooia about eight miles below Oak-lad, fell from the hay mow, striking a pitch fork, three times of which penetrated the lower extremities of his body.—Plaindealer.

The McCully has brought over 500 tons of wheat from Portland to the Oregon City mills during the last three days. Besides this another lot came to the mills from the river increasing the amount to about 600 tons. The mills are running almost their full capacity, and are grinding from forty to forty-five tons of wheat per day.—Enterprise.

A stranger, Martin E. Dean, lately registered at a hotel at Seattle, who stated that his home was near Ainsworth, and that he had recently been visiting Medical Lake to derive some benefit from its waters. On Sunday he did not appear for breakfast or dinner. The proprietor sent to his room to learn the cause of his absence, when the poor man was found upon his knees, the blood issuing from his nose and mouth, and he cold and rigid in death. The coroner's jury found that he died from hemorrhage of the lungs.

Mr. J. H. Foster is remodeling the old brick store adjoining his handsome block on Main street, Albany.

The examination of McMahon, whom we mentioned in our last issue as having been arrested at Portland, was completed in Justice Davis' court, and sufficient proof of his guilt was found to justify his being held to answer before the grand jury in the sum of \$1,000.

A dog belonging to a farmer living near Eugene dug into a gravel and sand bank for a skunk, throwing the dirt behind him. After he had caught and killed the skunk he found himself imprisoned. When he emerged, sixteen days afterwards, he was a very lean dog.—Journal.

One week ago last Saturday afternoon C. M. Fouts was sitting in a saloon at The Dalles, engaged in a game of cards, when he missed his watch. Noticing the man who had occupied the seat next to him in the act of leaving, he charged him with the theft. The man was soon afterwards arrested and the watch found in his possession.

On the 23d inst. a fire broke out in a business block on Main street at Colfax, W. T., and swept everything in its way before it could be checked. Colfax was constructed mostly of wood, and the fire, aided by the wind, completely destroyed almost the whole town. The loss is estimated at not less than \$100,000, and it will probably amount to more.

United States Engineer, Col. G. L. Gillespie, has lately received a dispatch from the war department at Washington which orders him to remove immediately to New York to assume the duties of the late Col. Michler, whose death occurred but a few days ago. Capt. Chas. F. Powell, now in charge of the Cascade locks, will take his place for the present.

Messrs. J. H. Maine, Jr., Frank Cole and Geo. N. Wheeler, of Albany, returned to that place on Saturday from a trip in the coast range of mountains. They brought back about 50 pounds of quartz, some of which has been tested and found to contain gold and silver. They claim to have discovered it about 140 miles from Albany in the coast range, but will not as yet tell the exact locality.

Says a correspondent of the Oregonian from Albany: "The name of the young school teacher recently shot in Umatilla Co., for presuming to marry the girl of his choice was not Kinney, as stated in some of the papers, but McGee—Walter a McGee—son of Jesse A. McGee of this vicinity. Walter is 24 years old and is highly esteemed by all who know him. His father says the wounds are not so bad as reported and that strong hopes are entertained of his recovery."

The man Switzer, who so cowardly attempted the assassination of Mr. Kinney at Gracewood, was taken before the justice of the peace at Centerville on Saturday, and in default of \$2000 bail was remanded to the county jail. His victim lies in a precarious condition, with but slight hopes of his recovery. During the examination the young lady connected with the shooting, on the witness stand swore that on the night previous, Switzer had come to her, and showing her a pistol, told her if she married Kinney he would shoot them both.—Telegraph.

The family of the late M. Meyer, of Salem, have caused to be erected in the Jewish cemetery above that city, a very handsome monument in memory of their deceased parents. It is of Italian marble, twelve feet in height, and consists of two parts in a double base united by an arch at the top, crowned by monumental urns. On the arch is sculptured a Masonic square and compasses, and clasped hands encircle a wreath. Inscriptions in Hebrew and English are engraved on each of the two pillars, and at the foot of them the words "Father," "Mother."

From a person who came to this city last Saturday, we learn that a very disastrous runaway occurred in Lost Valley, in this county, one day last week. The particulars as far as we could learn them, are as follows: Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin were away from home, and the oldest boy, aged ten years, hitched his horse to the wagon to take his little four year old brother and his sister to the field, some distance away. The animals had not proceeded far when they took fright throwing the children out of the wagon. The smallest boy was killed outright, he striking on some rocks with his head, and the oldest so badly injured that he was not expected to live. The other was not seriously hurt.—Dalles Times.

LOST IN THE MOUNTAINS.—A Canyon City correspondent under date of July 16, writes: Major Joseph Magoon, who is well known to old Oregonians, started out several days since to hunt for elk. Being separated from his party, search was made for him. His animals, four in number, were found tied at a point about five miles east from Soda Springs, and distant from this place about 25 miles. It is evident that the animals had been tied for about two days. Three days search has been made, and the impression is that he has got lost or met with some accident. A number of men are endeavoring to find some trace of him. Major Magoon resided for many years in Clackamas county, where he has several children residing.—Statesman.

On Sunday of last week a camp-meeting was being held eight miles west of Junction, in Lane county, at Sulphur Springs, by Mr. Houston. From some cause a neighbor near by shut up the road leading through his place to the grounds by felling trees and constructing a blockade, had completely ended travel to the meeting by that route. Mr. Williams, not aware of this, drove with his family along that way, when the party who had obstructed the road halted him and forbid him passing that way. Mr. Williams declared his intention to proceed, when the other party became enraged and struck at Mr. W. with a board, and then drew an ax. A tussel and ground fight ensued, some neighbors appeared and parted the combatants, the road was then cleared and about 70 wagons passed. The party who made the assault with the ax has been arrested for an assault with a deadly weapon, so says the Journal.

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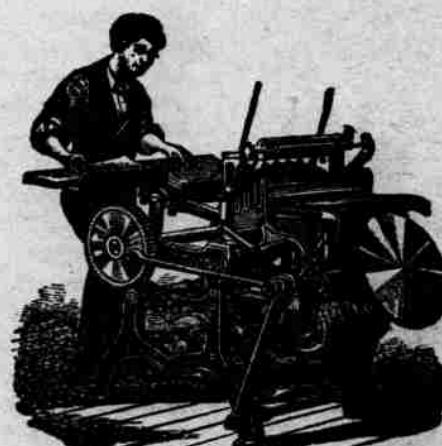
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