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OFFICIAL PAPER FOR BENTON COUNTY

WIGGINS' STORE.

Recent dispatches from Halifax says of a general storm which prevailed about the tenth throughout Canada and the New England coast as follows: Shortly after noon the breeze shifted to the southeast, and gradually grew in force. A few minutes after the storm signal was up at the citadel station, and people began to prepare for the storm, steamers and sailing vessels in docks were secured to wharves with extra hawsers, and merchandise in places of insecurity was removed to higher and safer quarters. No remarkable change occurred in the following two hours, but about 4 P. M. the wind quickened, and a light rain and hail storm commenced to fall. The clouds overhead grew ominously dark. Half an hour later the wind increased doubly in strength, and rain and hail were falling quite heavily. The following two hours this state of affairs continued, the breeze increasing to a gale, and howling overhead. Fear began to become general among wharf owners and proprietors of property on the water line. Great excitement prevailed. At 7 o'clock the ferry steamers to the mouth ceased their trips the last one occupying four times the usual time and being made with great difficulty. From that hour until 9 o'clock the gale blew with terrible fury, causing vessels in docks to strain fastenings and almost tear from them. The tide rose during the blow higher than known since the Baxley gale: At 8 o'clock it was nearly on a level with the wharves, and at 9, when the highest sea washed over, considerable fear was felt for the safety of the steamer New Foundland, which was due between 8 and 9 o'clock, when the storm was at the highest. At 8:30 the wind was blowing 37 miles an hour, and apparently growing in velocity. About 9 it calmed suddenly, and property owners and the people began to be more confident.

SICK HORSES FREEZE ETC.

A correspondent from Polk county to the Willamette Farmer says: There is much complaint among people of having sick horses. New comers are to be pitied, but old settlers should have learned, by this time, what would be the consequence of that freeze. In 1860-1 the people lost lots of horses after the freeze up, so again in 1874-5 after the freeze up, and now again in 1883. Should we not learn from the past? We don't pretend to know anything about the complaint, but are almost certain that the cause of it is not drinking water enough. Even when fresh dipped, or drawn out of a spring, or well, the horse shivers, and will not drink as much as he really needs. In that kind of weather a horse needs close attention, he should have bran mixed with his oats or some kind of roots; but, as we were out just then of the above, we fed to each horse a full handful of ground flaxseed with his oats, and the horses are ready for work as well as for their feed. We also have a large hole in each manger 1 1/2 inches deep, and fill up with salt and assalotida, and when empty we refill.

We see there are some people yet, who seem to think that fern hay is the cause of sickness among horses, but that is a great mistake, as we always feed fern hay and prefer it because it is fine, and horses like it best, but we have no sick horses. Oregon has certainly a healthy climate for horses, but neither our stables nor our horses are prepared for such cold waves. Ground flaxseed is perhaps one of the most useful articles a man can keep in a stable. We find it good for fresh cows with young calves, as well for horses.

RAILROAD FROM PORTLAND TO KALAMA.

Vice-President Oakes informs enquirers that the contract for the road between Portland and Kalama has been signed with J. B. Montgomery & Co. Length 40 miles, to be completed September 1st. The Columbia river will be crossed by an iron ferryboat capable of carrying thirty cars at once, and which has been shipped in sections to Portland, to arrive September 1st. The ferry will be worked like that at Havre. de Grace on the Pennsylvania road some years ago. Besides this road there now remains 288 miles in Montana, which, when completed, will give rough connection from Lake Super.

ior to Portland. Over 180 miles of this has been graded, and all will be completed by September.

AN EX-FRIEST.

Some excitement has been caused in Lexington, Ky., by the prevention of a lecture on "Why I became a priest and why I ceased to be one," by ex-Father O'Connor, now a professed infidel, says the Cincinnati Commercial. He had rented a hall, which was almost refused by the proprietor, who feared to lose the trade of Catholics. O'Connor was threatened with death if he attempted to lecture, the message being conveyed by three men professing to represent last night and demanded O'Connor of the host of the hotel where he stayed, but he had left. A number of advocates of free speech are trying to get O'Connor to lecture tomorrow night, and the ringleaders of the Catholic party still declare if he does he will be killed. Father Bowsath, the parish priest, disapproves of the action of those who prevented the lecture.

LAND DECISION.

Respecting the payment of purchase money, under act of June 10th 1880, for the relief of settlers on public lands, and to provide for the repayment of certain fees of purchase money paid on void entries of public lands. Secretary Teller holds that whenever an entry of land is made by specific legislation, and wholly false, the script or warrant, being within control of the general land office, and not in fact satisfied, may be returned for proper location upon cancellation of the former invalid entry, but where the consideration is carried in to the treasury as cash, and can only be drawn by application under the prepayment statutes, in the opinion of the secretary, it is clear that it must be repaid in the manner provided by these statutes, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, and in cases of excess, where they fall within its provision, repayment of excess must also be paid, as it is provided by such monies.

The local railroad losses by the flood, it is estimated, will range about as follows: Cincinnati, Washington and Baltimore, \$75,000; Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton, \$1,500; Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis, \$50,000; Cincinnati, Indianapolis, St. Louis and Chicago, \$100,000; Ohio and Mississippi, possibly, \$200,000; New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio, \$30,000; Cincinnati, New Orleans and Texas Pacific, \$2,000; Pittsburg, Cincinnati and St. Louis, \$1,000; Kentucky Central, 20,000; Cincinnati and Eastern, \$15,000.

Both the Mitchell and anti-Mitchell element at Salem confidently claim Al Crossman the lately appointed postmaster at that place on their respective sides of the fence. It is certainly an embarrassing condition for Mr. Crossman because both sides are canvassing the question so uncomfortably close that it will almost compel him to define his position in unmistakable terms.

In the last political campaign throughout most of the Oregon counties, direct opposition to the present school book monopoly was expressed by the people and a repeal thereof demanded by them and still the school book law yet remains on our statute book as a monument of one of the worst pieces of high handed robberies that was ever perpetrated upon an enlightened people.

A politician's advice to his son-in-law who had been nominated for office which will apply with equal force to the many candidates in our city for recorder, was as follows: "Lean a little towards everything and commit yourself to nothing. Be round, be perfectly round, like a bottle, just dark enough so that nobody can see what's in you."

It is understood that the Canadian Government has consented to subsidize a direct steamship line with Mexico and \$50,000, will be placed in the estimate for that purpose.

The Dartmouth College Sophomores have been suspended for not telling who put lard on the Faculty chairs.

The House Deficiency Bill this year is only \$2,000,000, as against \$20,000,000 last year.

Contraband opium to the value of \$15,000 was recently seized at San Francisco.

Base ball men say that a "milk pitcher is generally a good fly catcher."

CONDITION OF CROPS.

The following from Chicago handed to us by warehouseman, T. J. Blair of this place shows the condition of crops as collected by the Prime's crop bureau of Illinois up to last Feb 20th.

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

The wide-spread storms of rain, sleet and snow which swept over the entire continent early in February, remained upon the ground from ten to twelve days and was followed by deluges of rain which carried devastation and destruction on all sides. The movement of grain from the interior and also at our grain centres has consequently been very small, and the firm feeling which characterized the market at the date of our last private Crop Report, Feb. 8th, is still maintained. After heavy rains and mild weather for several days, the Weather suddenly changed and the mercury fell below freezing points, which tends still further to place the final outcome of the winter wheat crop in doubt. Recent cables and advices from abroad still confirm the opinions of poor crops in Europe during the summer of 1883. Late rains in California shows a better outlook for the wheat crops of that State.

WINTER WHEAT.

The extraordinary extremes which the winter wheat crop has been called upon to go through during the last fourteen days have not so far told upon it as we might readily expect. Practically the whole crop lies bare to-day. Where it was covered with thick sleet for fourteen days it shows no signs of having been "smothered or winter killed." So far Southern and Central Illinois make a very fair showing. Ohio and Indiana have been more or less damaged by Hessian fly in the fall; by floods and freezing lately. Kentucky and Tennessee the reports show no improvement, and the general outlook is more or less discouraging. From Missouri and Kansas the report very conflicting. In some regions of these States the reports are very good, and again from other sections of these States the prospect if anything but encouraging. On the whole, when we take into consideration that the last fourteen days have been the most severe of the whole season, we consider that the winter wheat crop has held its own nobly. It must be borne in mind, however, that the month of March is before us, which is far the most trying month of the whole year upon this crop. The marketing of the reserves of winter wheat owing to the uncertain condition of the crops at present is merely nominal. We incline, however, to the opinion that winter wheat good enough for milling purposes is quite a scarce article at present.

SPRING WHEAT.

The liberal receipts of spring wheat at interior points during the last fourteen days fully confirms what we said with regard to this crop early in the season, namely: That spring wheat has not been as freely marketed, in proportion, as winter wheat, and that when prices reached \$1 the receipt would be good.

When the railroads have not been blocked with snow the receipts at the Minneapolis mills have averaged nearly 100,000 bushels per day. Hon. A. C. Pillsbury, of Pillsbury Mills, says: "About one-third of the spring wheat in the Northern part of the State, and something like one half in the Southern portion of the State is yet in farmers' hands. The farmers here have been waiting to get \$1 per bushel, and now that they can get it wheat is coming in more lively. After I talk of the wheat inspection law no law would suit the farmers that did not provide to give the dollar per bushel for their wheat." There is too much snow in Nebraska, Iowa and Minnesota to say anything about spring seeding yet.

CONX.

The very severe weather, taken in connection with the poor quality of the crop, is causing a much greater amount of corn to be fed this winter than usual. There is nothing in the receipt of corn to indicate that the crop has been "under estimated." On the other hand, as the season progresses and as our corn cribs at railroad stations show no accumulation, it is only fair to suppose that the 1882 corn crop was greatly over estimated. The question as where can good seed corn be procured, is now of absorbing interest to the farmers of Illinois and Iowa.

The railroad capital raised in England last year was \$564,084,000, of which \$174,000,000 was for America and \$225,000,000 for Great Britain and the colonies.

A dispatch from New York says: Cleveland and New York were connected by telephone for several hours yesterday afternoon. Gentlemen in the offices of the Postal Telegraph Co., in New York, spoke and sang before the improved telephone. A party in the Cleveland office did the same, and their voices were more distinctly heard in New York than is usually the case between connected telephones in this city.

HEALTH AND DRAINAGE.

A great many ordinances are passed to keep people from throwing things into the streets and alleys for the commendable purpose of keeping things healthy and pure, and those in authority are continually endeavoring to adopt something to make some one else purify things, but all seems to fail of the object. If those in the management of our city affairs would adopt some systematic course and pursue it promptly for the purpose of keeping all surface drains through the city thoroughly cleaned out so that the water which falls can carry off the impurities, the health of our town would be in a better condition. But on the contrary, through the winter season in the drains accumulate all kinds of dirt and rubbish, the drains cave in, and when the rainy season ceases the water must stand with the filth and dry up and evaporate while the drains could be cleaned out so as to give the watery substance a chance to pass off in half the time that the learned sages of our city are parlying over some ordinance to make somebody else do or not do something that continually fails of its object. During the pleasant weather of the last three weeks these foul accumulations in ditches have been drying and evaporating and passing into the systems of our people to breed death and disease. These accumulations have been carried from all sources by the rain fall of the winter and not from the fault of any one in particular. But says one, "If we can only prevent citizens from running their dirty water into the street that will prevent all the difficulty," and so an ordinance is passed for the purpose of making them bury the water and filth in their respective enclosures. But this is only a temporary remedy and fails of the purpose. The citizens bury such filth and dirty water in their gardens and private grounds during the summer and for the time being no inconvenience is experienced from it. But during the long and heavy rains of the following winter more or less of these impurities from grounds and stables are washed into the streets, drains, and low places, and when the warm weather in the spring comes, evaporation takes place and the atmosphere carries much of it into the human system poisoning the blood and appearing in fevers, diphtheria and other forms of fatal diseases. Thorough action in keeping a good and effectual system of surface drainage would remove much of the difficulty.

GENERAL NEWS.

They do it in a rather positive way at Seattle. Speaking of the mud flat jumpers, the Intelligencer says: Yesterday Messrs. Abrams and Bailey secured a cannon, which they loaded up, and gave notice that they would turn it loose on anyone attempting to interfere with their piling.

Beaverton proposes to erect a \$1000 school building.

Old soldiers of H. Illinois will organize a Grand Army post.

John Newsome has been appointed surveyor for Marion county.

The Hillbros book and ladder company have purchased uniforms.

Action in regard to building a bridge across the Santiam has been deferred until next month.

Miss Georgia Peters will open a private school at Albany, having thus far secured about 20 pupils.

There will be twenty-two graduates from the Willamette university at the end of the present term.

President Herrick of the Forest Grove college has left for the east to raise funds for the completion of the college building.

James A. Campbell has been elected principal of the Hillsboro public school, and Miss Lucy Morgan, Miss Lida J. Wilson and Miss Olive J. Gove assistants.

Increasing sales of real estate are reported at New Tacoma.

Donald McKay, an architect of Seattle, is drawing plans for the Catholic cathedral to be built in Vancouver.

The Argus learns that semi-weekly mail service to Samish has been ordered by the postoffice department.

The Oregon improvement company will pay its first dividend, one of three and one-half per cent, on the 15th inst.

The steamer City of Quincy drifted upon a rock at Samish last Monday and had a hole stove into her hull. She will be repaired upon reaching Seattle.

The Episcopal college projected at New Tacoma is certain to be built. Four blocks for it have been secured from the Tacoma land company. C. B. Wright, of Philadelphia, formerly president of the Northern Pacific railroad company, has pledged Bishop

Paddock that if his friends would raise \$50,000 he himself would add thereto \$100,000. The bishop who is now in the east, announces that a large proportion of the \$50,000 has been raised.

Snake river boats are running regularly. A cottage has been framed at Dayton and sent to Prescott.

A Congregational church has been organized at Steilacoom.

The town of Spangle is surrounded by fine farming country and is being rapidly built up. The location is both beautiful and healthy. Lumber sells at \$15 and wood at \$3.

The Dayton Chronicle says: Noah Herren, who has been packing pork for Kinney, Morris & Co., showed us the result of his labors this week. Up to date he has killed 240 porkers, and he now has on hand about 20 tons of fine meat as we have ever seen, and 4000 pounds of lard.

The Dayton Chronicle says. From W. A. Belcher we learn that there will be, during the coming season, twenty saw and shingle mills in operation within a radius of sixteen miles from Dayton. The saw mills will probably make during the run an average of 135,000 feet of lumber per day, all of which must come to Dayton for shipment or use. The lumber from five of these mills is already engaged, the contracting parties agreeing to take all that can be made. The other saw mills will make over 100,000 feet of lumber per day, the hauling of which will give employment to 75 or 80 teams.

The Walls Walla Union: Sister Superior of St. Mary's hospital, has returned from Vancouver, where she has been to make arrangements for the building of a new hospital in this city. The building will be of wood, two stories in height and with accommodations for about 75 patients. The structure will be built facing 6th street with a frontage of 100 feet, and from each side of the building an L will run back 100 feet. Every modern convenience will be put into this building.

The La Conner Mail says: The Whatcom colony is reported to be gathering in strength and vitality, and there is every prospect now of the terms of the undertaking with Capt. Roeder and others as to the character of the enterprises to be established, by that association being carried out to the letter. We are informed that the Seattle flour and grist mill will be removed to and established at Whatcom; that the twenty-five and thirty houses called for in the arrangement with the original property owners will be built this spring and summer; and that in addition thereto a wharf will be built to deep water. All this bespeaks activity and determination worthy of the growing prospects of Whatcom and Bellingham Bay.

A new ferryboat is building at Wheatland.

Residences in Eugene are scarce and much sought after.

McMinnville merchants propose to organize a board of trade.

A band of hope with 69 members has been organized at Newburg.

Geo. W. Hume's saw mill at Astoria has been sold to Aug. C. Kinney for \$32,500.

Water in Mill creek at Salem is so low that Santiam water is used to run the mills.

Geo. Hollister, of Stayton, has been held to answer for killing birds in violation of the game law.

Horses to the value of \$10,000 have died in Yamhill county the past winter of prevalent diseases.

M. H. Skinner, of Coquille, has a contract for furnishing the railroad company with 400 cords of wood.

Dr. Derby, residing near Lafayette, has seventeen acres of wheat not damaged.

The Eugene Guard says: We understand that the farmers of Lane county will not have to import seed wheat, as there is plenty in the county to sow the entire acreage. We have heard of only one person, Mr. Norris Humphrey, who has ordered California seed.

Alkali is now free of smallpox.

A great many potatoes were frozen at and near Canyon City.

The population of Baker City is 1400, with 461 school children.

Henry Green, one of the men shot at Hot Lake, is improving rapidly.

The telegraph line is expected to reach Pendleton on Wednesday of this week.

The Pendleton flouring mills will be changed to a roller mill this summer with a daily capacity of 300 barrels.

Young grain in Umatilla county is not very high, but is regular and healthy. The crop promises to be large.

The Walls Walla Union says: On Tuesday night 100 immigrants landed from the cars in Dayton with the intention of settling Columbia and Garfield counties. On Wednesday night's train about 50 more came with the intention of taking up Government lands in that section. Columbia and Garfield counties are receiving a very heavy immigration for this season of the year. We are certain these strangers will find Columbia and Garfield counties far better than the land from whence they came—the Middle States.

An unusual demand for houses in Eugene exists, and it is beyond the power of the builders to fill awaiting orders, says the Eugene Guard. As soon as a house is known to be for rent, or it is surmised that the parties now occupying it are going to move out, or it is hinted that there is a probability that some one said he thought they were going to move out, the owner is at once interviewed by parties desirous of moving in forthwith.

Many fruit growers express the opinion that neither the apple or pear trees are killed, and that there will be a fair crop of plums and cherries. Small fruits, with the exception of the Lawton blackberry, are reported in good condition, says the Walls Walla Union. Peaches and apricots are probably killed to the snow line.

A woolen mill at Tacoma seems a certainty says the Olympia Standard. Arrangements are now being made to erect a building and procure machinery. The agreement calls for its completion within six months from January 24.

Phil Giberson has sold his stable and lot in Dayton to S. Bramlette.

Farm hands are very scarce near Waitsburg and there is delay in farm work in consequence.

A man has arrived at Sprague from Walls Walla on a tricycle and will go eastward to his front.

Samuel Kines informs the Pomeroy Independent that orchards near the mountains are not damaged.

It will require one and one-half millions of brick to put up the proposed new buildings at Spokane Falls this summer.

Hank Vaughn and party are grazing 400 head of horses on Umatilla reservation previous to driving them into British possessions.

The Davenport town company have donated a block for school purposes, and the school directors are having building plans prepared.

Hay has sold at \$40 a ton in Eastern Oregon late.

Several sales of real estate in Olympia have been made during the past few days and there is considerable inquiry about eligible town lots.

Another tannery is building at Victoria. The house is 35x80 feet and three and a half stories high.

The sealing business is now at its height, off Cape Flattery, there being over twenty vessels employed in it. The average catch per season, to each vessel is said to be about 800, which are valued at about \$4,000. The Indians also catch large numbers and are said to earn about \$100,000 each season.

Smallpox is dying out in Eastern Washington. Quarantine and skillful nursing prevented a general spread of the disease, and many deaths.

Reports from nearly every precinct in Payallup valley indicate large increase in hop acreage over last year. The crop of 1883 is likely to be a profitable one in this region.

The general understanding at Ashland is that about 5,000 men will be sent to the front about the 10th of this month, to begin work on the extension of the railroad northward.

Probably the highest price yet paid for farm land in the Territory, if not on the Pacific slope, was paid last week at Mad-docks-ville, on White river, in King county, W. T. Capt. Yates sold two acres there to Charles Carpenter for \$2,000. Ten dollars an acre is a good average price for farm lands in Washington Territory, while \$100

and \$150 an acre was the highest heretofore reached. From these prices to \$1,000 per acre is a huge jump.

Wolves on Vancouver island are complained of.

Port Moody is clear of ice again, after a month's looking up.

A new salmon cannery is being built on the north side of the Chehalis river near Cosmopolis, by Benn & Gibson.

There are six new houses in course of erection in North Salem.

It is estimated that the Davis' bridge over the Santiam will cost \$15,000.

The town of St. Helens has taken a boom. A large three story hotel is being built.

The Spring and Summer vacations of the Deaf-Mute school, commences in about two weeks.

The expenditure in Portland last year, says the Albany Democrat, for school purposes was \$229,965.63, a cent of about \$50 to the student. In Albany it was only about \$10 to the student.

Farm hands are being paid \$35 per month in the vicinity of New Tacoma.

Reports from nearly every precinct in Payallup valley indicate large increase in hop acreage over last year.

Mr. Watkins, a Welchman, from Pennsylvania, has been appointed Superintendent of the coal mines at Newcastle.

The restriction act is evidently a farce, as expected. The Seattle Herald says: Twenty-one head of Chinese merchandise with their packs landed here last night off the Elder from San Francisco, Victoria or some other sea port town.

Work on Gov. Moody's new residence at Salem is to begin the 12th inst.

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