

FRIDAY MORNING, FEB. 13, 1885. OFFICIAL PAPER FOR BENTON COUNTY

Entered at the Postoffice at Corvallis Oregon, as second-class matter.

News Summary.

Fresh oysters, all styles, at Bain's. Fresh candy and taffy daily at Bain's. Good Joke—a No. 1 5 cent cigar at Mattoon's. Valentines—a fine lot just received at Mattoon's. Candies, Nuts, Oranges, Lemons, Figs and Dates at Mattoon's. Pet and Cubeg Cigarettes at Mattoon's. Creme de la creme—the best cigar in Corvallis at Mattoon's. Tobacco—the best brands at Mattoon's. Toys, Stationary, Notions, &c., at Mattoon's.

Mixed farming is getting a good start this year, and it will pay better. Blackleg is reported to be ravaging the stock in Drew's valley.

The Washington territory insane asylum contains at present 150 inmates—110 men and 29 women.

Postoffices have recently been established at Olene, Klamath county, and at Croston, in Marion county. Oliver C. Applegate is postmaster of the former, and Benjamin E. Hall of the latter.

Harry Dickenson, a boy about twelve years of age, was sent to the county jail from Albina recently for five days for writing indecent words on the walls of a school house, fences, etc.

Oregon Swamp Land claims have been denied and a new examination of about 50,000 acres ordered. Some of the fellows who have been speculating in them are liable to get cinched yet.

Under the present laws a man can secure from the government 160 acres by pre-emption, 160 acres under the homestead, and 160 acres under the timber culture law, making 480 acres in all. A bill has been introduced into Congress, repealing all but the homestead law and amending that.

Lake county is altogether too distressingly healthy a part of the world for doctors. There are only three doctors located in the county, and the probabilities are good they will have to go into some other business in order to get rich.—Examiner.

Mr. Vanderbilt very recklessly denies the story that he carries life insurance to the amount of \$620,000, and, in fact, says he has none at all. In some things William is shrewd, but we must say he has acted very foolishly about this matter. Every life insurance agent in New York will be after him now, and he will have to insure or die.

The festive coachman again appears upon the matrimonial stage. This time he is a youthful specimen, barely nineteen years of age, while his bride is seventy-four and very rich. The marriage took place in St. Roches church, Ontario, Tuesday. An exodus of youthful coachmen to Canada is now expected.

The potato crop of last season, says a Portland exchange, bids fair to prove more remunerative than usual. Large quantities of potatoes are being shipped to California, 8,000 to 10,000 sacks going down on each steamer. About 2,000 sacks are brought into town daily by farmers, who receive half a cent a pound for them, which puts \$1,000 per day into circulation.

The improvement of Snake river by the government, has been continued during the present winter. The steady prosecution of the work for several years has greatly improved the river, more especially at Pine Tree, Texas, Palouse rapids, which were formerly impassable at a low stage of water, and now boats can reach Riparia, Idaho, as early as they formerly could Lewiston from the latter place.

Articles incorporating the Domestic and Fat Stock show were filed in the office of the county clerk of Multnomah county on last Friday. The incorporators are A. H. Johnson, T. H. Tongue, J. T. Apperson, Van B. Delashount, and Wm. M. Ladd. The business in which the corporation propose to engage is to hold an exhibition of domestic animals, poultry, and fat stock, and to pay premiums for merit of the same.

Farmers are getting to stall-feeding stock for market. H. L. Rudd, Esq., has over a hundred sheep and a car load of five steers up, which he will have as fat as butter in April. Others also are starting in on it. One farmer near Halsey has 200 mutton sheep feeding for the Portland market. With a good shed and water handy very light expense is attached to stall feeding this season in consequence of the low prices for grain and feed.

The snow blockade which occurred early in December is just beginning to find its way into Eastern papers, which devote considerable space to it and characterize it as the longest and worst ever experienced in the United States. It will require considerable time and patience to make people in the East understand this blockade was the first ever experienced in Oregon, and that the railroads were not prepared to cope with something never dreamed of in their philosophy. It will also be a difficult matter to convince the people that Oregon is not subject to such storms, and that while other sections of the country are now in the midst of winter, this State is enjoying mild and spring-like weather. Every journal in the State can set this matter right, and as all have the interests of the State at heart, there is no doubt but they will let their light shine on this Oregon mist.

Arrangements are in progress for selling the water power at Spokane Falls to Eastern capitalists.

There will be a large steam sawmill built in Duckworth, Lane county, next spring, by capitalists from the Umpqua.

The Los Angeles fruit growers are making extraordinary efforts to beat the Florida people in the fruit display at New Orleans especially in the way of fine orange and citrus fruit.

At Seattle, on Jan. 14th, William Lenard died, aged 106 years and three months. At the time of his death he was, perhaps, the oldest man on the coast.

A rancher in Modoc county named Colin Anderson, while going home through the sage brush with a lighted lantern, was followed by rabbits, attracted by the light. The Modoc Independent asserts that the rabbits were so fascinated by the light that Mr. Anderson was enabled to catch some of them by the ears and carry them home.

The Yakima country must be destitute of fruit, judging from the quotations published in the local papers. Dried apples are selling at sixteen cents per pound, while peaches and plums are quoted at from twenty-three to twenty-five cents. This is fifty per cent higher than Portland.

The dairy produce dealers in San Francisco claim to have the best organized and most systematic exchanges in the country. This exchange has done much toward the establishment of large creameries and dairy farms in California, and has aided in procuring a ready and remunerative market for the product.

The stage running between Grant's Pass and Wilderville was capsize on Wednesday of last week while crossing Applegate creek, and the driver, a Mr. Jones, Mrs. Mary Dillon with her two children and Andrew McClung, who was on his way home from the penitentiary, sent from Douglas county last spring, were all drowned. Mr. Jones was proprietor of the Wilderville hotel.

There has been discovered near Yuba Dam a fugitive sheep, which, in swimming through the muddy water, had become thoroughly covered with "silken," in which much gross seed had been mixed. A thick crop of green grass is now growing upon the sheep's back. Both the sheep and grass are being carefully guarded, and when the latter has reached its full growth it will be harvested and converted into hay and preserved as one of the California curiosities. There may be some truth in the story, but the average reader will denounce it in the name of the town originating it.

The citizens of Vancouver held a meeting a few evenings since for the purpose of taking measures for building a narrow gauge railroad or tramway from Vancouver to the Cascade Mountains. O. A. Palmer offers to put in his tramway, which is already constructed for a distance of three miles. Should this track be extended to the river front and for eighteen miles more it would top one of the finest timber belts in the country. A number of business men and several capitalists are interested in the matter and the road will doubtless be built.

Grain never looked better at this season of the year than that now growing in the northern portion of Yamhill and the southern part of Polk, and the rank growth is now furnishing the best feed for stock on many farms. Judging from the looks of plowed fields along the railroads the heavy snow of a month ago acted as a pulverizer and benefitted the land, the weight and dampness of the snow having matted the clods, making the fields look as level as the floor.—Yamhill Reporter.

It is stated that there are extensive deposits of coal at different points along the western division of the Canadian Pacific railway in Manitoba. While digging wells instead of water, the drills penetrated subterranean gas tanks in several instances, and operations were suspended. Lighted matches were held at the surface of the wells, and the escaping gas ignited at once. It has been burning ever since, without interruption or sign of cessation. It is the general impression that immense beds of coal and deposits of petroleum will soon be developed in that region, especially in the vicinity of the Saskatchewan river.

Says a Salem exchange: The Narrow Gauge Railroad in Linn county is doing a good business, and yet the citizens stand back and say nothing while the company have actually the audacity to afford no better accommodation for passengers than a poorly arranged box car. A few dollars and a little trouble at the company's expense would put a good passenger coach on the road if only the people would ask. Ask largely that ye may receive abundant. The company has good coaches; all to be done is to put them on the road. This will increase the travel that way, and, of course, will encourage the company to forward the work in Marion county.

Mention was made in the papers of the mysterious disappearance of two small children of Mr. Fank, who lives near Mehama, on the Santiam in Marion county, and of a large number of the neighbors who were looking out for the little truants. The Salem Statesman contains a letter from Mehama which contains the intelligence that the children had been found, the note concludes as follows: Mariou Taylor was in the volunteer company, and had with him his old faithful hound that was put on their trail, which he followed for some distance, and until in places their tracks were in places visible. After following this trail some three miles through mud and snow they were found standing inside a large fir tree, apparently none the worse on account of their tramp through the woods, but were in a good physical state of preservation considering the fact, that they had been twenty-eight hours without food, and had slept over night without protection from the elements.

Temperance Department.

EDITED BY THE W. C. T. U.

"In Reading what shall we Avoid?"

The following article was prepared and read before the W. C. T. U. by one of the young ladies, upon this topic

The press like many other good things has been subsidized by the devil. One tells you to read poetry, and then there are poets (as Byron and Swinburne) whom you should not read; and Burns, for part of whose works you will be better, for part worse. Some novels are our teachers, some our destroyers. History is commended to you; and some histories are written in the interests of superstition, idolatry or vice. What shall we do? Let us have some rules for our guidance that we may not gather poison. To begin then never read that which instead of adding to, takes from our mental or spiritual strength. Do not let your reading be a succession of examples in subtraction but in addition to our inner life. Never read a book that robs you of your earnestness nor that high quality of reverence without which there can be no truly elevated character. Never read what you are ashamed to be seen reading, the instinct to hide is your heart's own condemnation. Keep your eyes open to danger. Do not read from curiosity what good people have condemned; the world is wide and we cannot investigate everything, and lastly do not read everything you see in an issue desire to be called a great reader, be rather a thorough reader. Ruskin has said, "I know many persons who have the purest taste in literature, and yet false taste in art, and it is a phenomenon which puzzles me not a little; but I have never known any one having false taste in books, and true taste in pictures." It is also of the greatest importance to you, not only for the sake, but for all kinds of sake, in these days of book deluge, to keep out of the salt swamps of literature, and live on a little rocky island of your own, with a spring in it and a lake pure and good. I cannot, of course, suggest the choice of your library to you, every several mind needs different books; but there are some books we all need. Avoid that class of literature which has a knowing tone; it is the most poisonous of all. Read little at a time, trying to feel interest in the little things, and reading not so much for the sake of the story as to get acquainted with the pleasant people into whose company their writers bring you. A common book will often give you amusement, but it is only a noble book which will give you dear friends.

"Are you deficient in taste read the best English poets, such as, Thompson, Gray, Goldsmith, Scott and Walsworth; in imagination, read Milton, Burke and Shakespeare; in powers of reasoning, read Bacon, Chillingworth and Locke; in judgment and good sense in the common affairs of life, read Franklin; in sensibility, read Goethe and Mackenzie; in political knowledge, read Webster and Calhoun; in patriotism, read Demosthenes and the life of Washington; in conscience, read some of President Edward's works.

Certainly at present, and doubtless through your entire life your teachers are wisest that teach you to cultivate virtue, purity of mind and loveliness of soul. When you reflect you will feel that our best society is what our young ladies strive to make it, either "high-toned," morally good, intellectual and true, or "low-toned," morally impure, shallow and false. The influence our young ladies undoubtedly have upon society to-day is not felt as it should be, by themselves. They ask, what can we do? Willing hearts and ready hands, can always find opportunities "to do." L. H. A.

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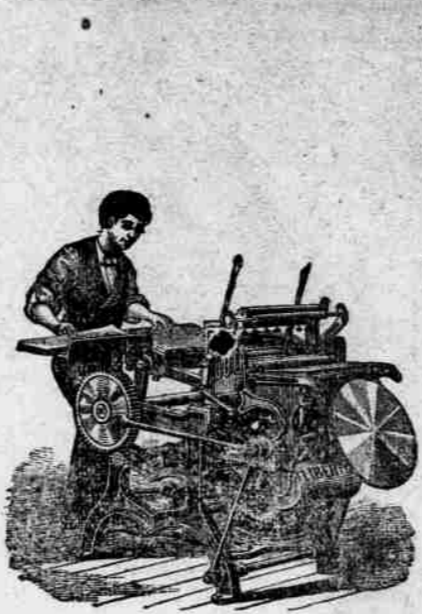
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