

## State and Territorial.

The Iron works at Oswego, Oregon closed down last week with but little hopes of again being able to reopen.

The Oregon Horse and Land company has 12,000 horses on its numerous ranches in Western Idaho and Eastern Oregon.

The Canadian Pacific is in the near future to be a close competitor of the North Pacific for the through emigrant business from the old countries and Lower Canada.

New Northwest: If a strong bill to punish prize fighting, its aiders and abettors, were introduced in the Oregon Legislature, it would be interesting to watch the course of a part of the Multnomah delegation.

The law of the state of Oregon explicitly says that no person who is divorced can marry again for the space of six months, or until the time for an appeal has expired; and any person violating this express statute is liable under the law.

The population of Union county has increased from 5,650 in 1880 to 8,688, according to the census just taken. A much greater increase is shown in the Eastern Oregon counties in the last five years than in Western Oregon counties.

A young man in Colusa county, California, shot himself about a year ago because a young woman refused to marry him. The girl said he was a fool, but the boy recovered. The other day the girl committed suicide because the boy refused to have her. The world changes and so do boys and girls.

Dave Small of Walla Walla, has contracted for the furnishing of 12,000,000 feet of lumber for a company that is now engaged in the construction of an eight-mile flume down Richland creek, through the placer diggings near Murrayville. A practicable wagon road is being built from Thompson Falls, which seems to have a future before it after all, but it depends on the mines.

An idea of the size of the sheep ranches in Montana and Wyoming may be had from the statement that the Warren Live Stock company of Wyoming has on hand 40,000 head of sheep, besides 5000 head of sheep which they now have fattening at Gibbon, Neb. These great western and northwestern ranges have for a great many weeks been sending vast numbers of sheep to New York.

A Seattle paper says: "The Chinamen in this city signify their willingness to leave Seattle if they can get purchasers for their property. Gee Hee said recently they were not at all anxious to stay, but felt that they could not suffer a loss of their property. He said his company—the Wa Chong company—have \$130,000 worth of property here, which they would part with if a buyer made his appearance."

Chinese pheasants, with all their winsome ways and long tails, are said to be the most destructive bird known when it comes to making an attack on a shock of wheat. Not satisfied with getting enough to eat they overhaul the whole shock, scratching the wheat in every direction. When it comes to fighting, a game cock is said to stand no chance with them. One good-sized Chinese pheasant will "clean out" a whole barn yard of chickens.—Democrat.

Some of our valley farmers claim that fields are full from seed brought here in 1883 from California. The glorious climate of California, uninterrupted by frosts, permits the growth of many varieties of weeds which seriously annoy farmers there, and it is not altogether unlikely that in the wheat used here to re-seed our land that spring some of the noxious things were introduced and still linger with us.—Yamhill Reporter.

The Walla Walla Journal says: "Wheat is pouring into Prescott at the rate of 600 to 700 sacks a day, while not more than 100 a day, on an average, are shipped out. The accumulation along the track at the point is now over 20,000 sacks. This is representative of the situation at all stations on the road north. The farmer with notes maturing and under compulsion to pay 2 per cent. interest therefor and unable to obtain pay for his wheat until it is shipped, finds the grinning and bearing of it a somewhat difficult matter."

The people of the western part of Lane Co. held a meeting at Florence lately, and appointed committees to aid in securing the annexation of the Siuslaw portion of Douglas county to Lane, says a Lane county exchange. Hon. A. C. Barbour will present the subject to the legislature. They will also second the efforts of Hon. Binger Herman in securing an appropriation to make a full survey of the harbor and buoy the channel at the entrance of the bay. If successful, this move will open up a large section of country to settlement which is now almost entirely unoccupied.

Last week as Mr. A. J. Olin, who lives near Shedd's was riding across a small bridge, his horse broke through and threw him violently forward, his head striking on a plank piece of timber at a point in the left eye brow, cutting a gash from that point back to the top of the head and then down to the left ear, and tearing the scalp all down to the ear and temple, leaving all the skull in front of the ear and up to the top of the head naked. The wound was a frightful one but a physician was called and sewed up the wound and the man is getting along all right.

The Chinese of Portland are determined to stand on the defensive, and evidently understand the maximum in time of peace prepare for war. One gun store in this city has sold ninety weapons to Chinese during the past week. These consisted of double action Colt's revolvers, and a few Winchester rifles. Yesterday a couple of heathens purchased two splendid revolvers and 300 rounds of ammunition. When asked the reason of such war-like preparations, they replied that the arms and munitions were to be used to guard themselves against any possible demonstration the whites might make.—News.

Wasco county raised nearly 800,000 bushels of grain the past season. Next year, with favorable prospects, the yield will be over a million bushels.

Baker City Sage Brush: Some talk of having a new judicial district out of Baker, Union and Umatilla counties, and it is reported there are about twelve candidates for judge.

As an offset to the general prediction of a hard winter, it is worth noting that one of the oldest residents of this valley, who is unusually observant of weather phenomena, says he has never known a severe winter to follow a fall in which the rains set in early.

Douglas county sheep men complain that coyotes and other sheep-killing animals are on the increase, and they are very destructive to that important industry, and that the bounty offered by the county court is too small to induce anyone to hunt and destroy them.

All over the country women continue to take the benefit of the land laws by securing homesteads from the government. Picking up papers which contain "notices of publication" and "notices of proof," we almost invariably find the names of women among the homesteaders.

Says the Lakeview Examiner of last Saturday: "The register and receiver of the land office at this place rendered decisions this week in a number of swamp land contests. The decisions in every instance were in favor of the settlers and against the swamp land claimants."

Roseburg Plaindealer: The Oregon & California passenger trains run over and kill a great many deer between the mouth of Cow Creek canyon and Grant's Pass. The deer get on the track and become fascinated by the light of the engine, and allow themselves to be run over, or thrown senseless from the track by the cow-catcher.

In favorable seasons California counts its honey-crop by the thousand tons, and beekeepers find a good profit when extracted honey commands no more than four or five cents per pound, and comb-honey seven or eight cents. This year, however, the honey yield will be light—flowers are few and nectar scant.

P. F. Bradford, a successful fruit-grower near Portland, has put up 22,000 pounds of dried fruit, consisting of 16,000 pounds of dried plums and prunes, 4000 pounds of dried apples and 2000 pounds of dried pears. Mr. Bradford is a practical man and thoroughly understands how to dry fruit. The fruit sells easily at ten cents and upwards, wholesale.

Farmers of Douglas county buy short horn Durham cattle, raise good grades, make good butter and cheese, stop the importation of these articles from the east, keep a few fine bred hogs that you can feed all the year upon skim milk, refuse grain and vegetables, cease to put in so much wheat for shipment, and our word for it, you will see better times in the future.—Plaindealer.

The Blakely mill company is building a standard gauge railroad up the Little Skokum river. Over four miles are ready for the rails. A locomotive has already arrived but for some reason the iron has been delayed. The road will be used at present for logging purposes, but its ultimate destination is Gray's Harbor, to which inlet it is fifty miles. A survey to the summit of the Olympic range to be crossed has already been completed. Next spring active work on pushing the road through to Gray's Harbor will be prosecuted.

Last spring there was a grand rush into Harvey valley, but there were many poor settlers went in there who expended their all in improving their places, and are now entering upon the winter without a cent, and no probability of securing work before spring. There are no chances of obtaining employment in that section, and the man who takes his family there should take funds sufficient to tide him over the first winter at least.—Sage Brush.

Ashland Tidings: During the past eleven months there have been but seven deaths in the portion of this valley between Phoenix and the California line, and two of these were the results of accidents, one being from a fall from a horse and the other from a rifle shot. The territory includes the town of Ashland and has a population of about 2800 people. This is certainly a good record and accords with the claim made by Ashland people that they have remarkably healthy climate.

A correspondent writing from Blue River mines says: The miners are preparing for winter and are building cabins. Work is still being performed on the ledges. Some still coming and going. They have located some quartz claims on the head waters of the Calipooia. Mr. Warren raised and covered a house to-day on his ranch one mile above the mouth of the Blue river on the McKenzie. Mr. John Watson is building a house just one-half mile above him on his ranch on Elk Creek. All of these places have been recently taken up. Land hunters, looking for government lands, should pay this section a visit, as there is plenty of good government land still vacant that would make splendid ranches and very good range for stock.

Concerning the tramps arrested for the murder at Roseburg, reported two weeks ago, a correspondent writes as follows to the Oregonian: "Mike, one of the tramps jointly indicted with two others whose true names could not be learned, and who could not be found, for the murder of the tramp Sullivan about two weeks ago, was tried last week. The first jury disagreed, standing three for murder in the first degree, two for manslaughter and seven for acquittal. The jury on the second trial found a verdict of 'not guilty,' whereupon he, with three others who had been held as witnesses were discharged. Two of them found their way Saturday morning into the recorder's court, who gave them five days in the cooler for drunkenness."

At the term of the circuit court held in Linn county at Albany recently, there were eleven divorce and two slander cases on the docket.

Law suits are sometimes rather expensive luxuries. A case has just been concluded in a circuit court in Iowa, which in the beginning might have been settled for \$850 but the fighting disposition of the parties involved prevented a settlement. The matter has been in the courts eleven years, cost over \$20,000 and bankrupted several prosperous farmers.

A number of girls were recently brought over the Short Line from Omaha to be waiters in the eating house at Huntington. A day or two since a susceptible young fellow "just off bunch grass," asked one of them to marry him. They had only known each other three days but she was equal to the emergency, and she accepted him "just too quick." He accompanied her to a justice of the peace, who, in making out the necessary documents asked the young man the name of his intended. "You will have to ask some one who is better acquainted with her than I am," said he, "for I don't know." The marriage took place, and such is life in the wilds of Baker county.

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