

TO THE DALLES AND BACK—ITEMS BY THE WAY—A STARTLING COMMENTARY.

INDEPENDENT:—Last week I took a trip up the Columbia river on a visit to my old home at the Dalles in Eastern Oregon. I left Portland on the 25th ult. at 5 in the morning on one of the O. S. N. Company's boats, and landed at the Dalles at 3 p. m. Had a pleasant trip. The officers on this line are clever, accommodating men. Everything is in good style—good boats, good "grub," etc.

Landing at the Dalles I took a run out through town and found that it has slowly improving. Times are rather dull there now. I saw a number of the old neighbors, all looking well and apparently doing well.

On the 26th (Thanksgiving,) I attended religious services at the M. E. Church, conducted by Rev. Mr. Butcher, pastor of the Congregational church in that place. The congregation, to my infinite surprise, consisted of about 120 women and 12 men I suppose the men thought that the Apostolic number was all that was necessary. I thought to myself, "If the good women of the Dalles were all to die, Thanksgiving would be poorly represented in this place." But at night this disparity at church was fully explained. For there was a splendid ball at the Umatilla hotel and I observed that there were about three men to one woman there. This I think is quite a commentary on the comparative morals of the lords of creation. The ball went on all night and was conducted in the best of style.

After Thanksgiving I went out in the country and found the grass starting up nicely, but all kinds of stock look quite thin, and the people are not prepared for a very hard winter, notwithstanding they are expecting it.

There has been a good deal of sickness up there this fall. I noticed several teams in town from the upper country for freight. During my stay I observed that the men "indulged" quite freely (that is they make use of lots of the "critter."

Concluded to return home, and got on the Opposition line on the 30th at 5 a. m. The boat was small but quite comfortable. After steaming down the Columbia for some time a fellow passenger remarked that it was a long time getting day. I told him that the reason of it was because we were traveling west so fast that daylight had not yet had time to overtake us. But at last the grey streaks of dawn began to pierce the gloom and the shadows crept behind the beetling crags and towering cliffs. A bright breezy morning it was up there where the mountains bend over the River and the sky bridges the heights.

We landed at Portland at 6 p. m., just in time to get the benefit of an "Oregon Mist."

H. B. M.

Increasing Duration of Human Life.

In London, from 1660 to 1679 the death-rate was 80 in 1,000, while during the last 34 years throughout England the average is but 22.4 per 1,000. For a thousand years after the civilization of the Egyptians, the Jews, the Greeks and the Romans faded, there was not a man or woman in Europe that ever took a bath. Hence arose the wondrous epidemics of the middle ages, which cut off one-fourth of the population of Europe—the spotted plague, the black death, the sweating sickness and the terrible mental epidemics which followed in their train—the dancing mania, the mewing mania and the biting mania.—*Dr. Lyon Playfair's Lecture before the Glasgow Social Science Convention.*

Come Love—Love Come.

[From the Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Press.]
A pensive young man in Wisconsin, while singing "Come, love, come," beneath his dukinea's window, the other night, had love, music, and everything else knocked out of him by a something in a long white garment that fell out of a chamber window. It proved to be nobody but the girl, who in her anxiety to know who was serenading her, leaned too far over the window sill; hence the result. He says when he sings "Come, love, come," again, he will keep away from under the window, as his system can't stand many such shocks.

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FLOUR—Extra in demand for export at \$5 25 @ 755 $\frac{1}{2}$ bbl.
OATS—\$1 40 @ 61 65 $\frac{1}{2}$ 100 lbs.
ONIONS—\$2 55 @ 2 87 $\frac{1}{2}$ 100 lbs.

PORTLAND MARKET.

WHEAT—1 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ 100 lbs.
OATS—41c @ 43c $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel.
FLOUR—Firm; standard brands, \$5 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ bbl.
BARLEY—\$1 40 @ 1 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ cental.
GREEN APPLES—37 $\frac{1}{2}$ @ 50c $\frac{1}{2}$ bush.
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BUTTER—Extra dairy, 25 @ 30c $\frac{1}{2}$ lb;
EGGS—27c $\frac{1}{2}$ doz.
POULTRY—Grown chickens, \$3 60 @ 3 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ dozer.
WOOL—22 @ 30c $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.

Forest Grove Retail Market.

CORRECTED WEEKLY.
Wheat, $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel, 63
Flour, $\frac{1}{2}$ barrel, 4 50
Corn Meal, $\frac{1}{2}$ barrel, 4 05
Potatoes, $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel, 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ @ 50
Eggs, fresh $\frac{1}{2}$ doz., 25
Butter, good fresh role $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., 30
Chickens, $\frac{1}{2}$ doz., 25 @ 30
Racon, sides $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., 10 @ 12
Cheese, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., 20 @ 25
Dried Plums, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., 16 @ 20
Scrup, $\frac{1}{2}$ Kg (retail), 4 @ 5
Coffee, (retail) $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., 27 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tea, Japan (retail) $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., 75
Tea, Green, (retail) $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., 1 25
Salmon, best $\frac{1}{2}$ barrel, 5 50
Sugar, by the keg $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., 8 @ 12
Lard, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., 14 @ 16
Mutton, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., 8 @ 10
Beef, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., 6 @ 8
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Fish (fresh) $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., 8 @ 10
Fish, (salt) $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., 8 @ 10

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