

THE INDEPENDENT.

HILLSBORO, THURSDAY, Dec. 23.

Mixed Farming.

The Oregonian says "For mixed farming, which is the most profitable farming, no country on earth is better adapted than Oregon." We are sorry for our State that the Oregonian's assertion is not true. For mixed farming Oregon will not compare with most of the States in the Union. Our winter season is too long and wet and our summers are too dry to make mixed farming successful. The summers are so dry that vegetables will not do well on up-lands, the grass dries up and makes the dairy business impossible, and the ground becomes so hard that hogs cannot root, and there is no mast, and they have to be fed all summer, and, in fact, all the year round, to keep them in a thriving condition. Corn cannot be raised here, and as a rule it does not pay to put wheat into hogs while it sells for 65 cts. cash per bushel, so the swine business is almost a failure. As for sheep our long rainy winters is harder on them than the cold in the East and in summer-time the grass fails. The Valley is a poor grazing region for all kinds of stock and if it were ever so good the grazing land is so limited that it could never amount to much for such a purpose.

Some Scotchmen who came into this county two or three years ago laughed at the old Oregonians because they devoted their attention to raising wheat. They said they would raise turnips, rutabagas, carrots, etc., etc., and have fat beef cattle and hogs to sell in the spring. But now they say that the land is not good for the production of such vegetables, and they are gradually settling down to the practice of the old Oregonians. They find that they can make more money by putting their strength to raising wheat and oats, and are satisfied to raise enough vegetables and grass to keep their work-horses, milch cows and sheep in good condition through the winter and for home use.

Chopping Their Heads Off.

Secretary Bristow lately issued an order to reduce the expenses of the several Custom Houses, either by a reduction of the force or of salaries paid, accordingly five of the officials in the Custom House in Portland have been discharged—Messrs. Sewal, Shaw, Ryan, Ferguson and Riley, the colored orator. Now if the government would abolish this Custom District, for which there is about as much use as a dog has for two tails, and discharge the rest of the ring and their leeches it would save Uncle Sam a good deal of money, that is now thrown away and set some political sharks and pap-sucking snobs to work for their living. There is a large number of Custom Districts in the United States that either should be consolidated with others or be entirely abolished that are an expense to the government. The Portland Custom House never paid expenses and is a humbug and a swindle. A hundred thousand dollars of the people's money was thrown away in constructing that useless (except for official sharks) pile of buildings for which our bigamist Senator is largely responsible.

Improvement of the Columbia River.

We understand that a petition asking Congress to improve the Upper Columbia River is being forwarded to each Grange in this State, Washington and Idaho to be generally signed, and then sent to Washington City. There are about 300 Granges in this jurisdiction with at least 6,000 members and if they all sign this petition it will have a great influence in effecting legislation for the improvement of the Columbia, an enterprise of paramount importance to the farmers of Eastern Oregon whose products are annually eaten up by the middlemen before they reach a market. The petitions should be signed immediately and sent on so that the matter may have its full effect at an early day in the session.

Says the Oregonian, "The Eberpapyrus roll discovered and translated by Prof Ebers, is an Egyptian Medical treatise written just 3,400 years ago, according to the commonly received chronology, when Moses was just 21 years old. Chapters 65, 66, 79 and 89, show that hair invigorators, hair dyes, pain-killers, and flea powder, were desiderata at that early period. "Verily, there is nothing new under the sun."

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No Model for this Age.

Referring to Euripides, the New York Post says: "The Athenians once asked Euripides to expunge a certain sentiment from one of his tragedies. He replied that it was his custom to write plays in order to teach the people, not to be taught by the people." And hence another writer remarks that the old Grecian "was cut out for the editor of an independent newspaper, but he was born too soon." Yes, and let any Euripides of any independent newspaper of this day try to adopt that which the Post applauds in Euripides, and he would find himself cut out of employment very soon, unless he owned the establishment and was solid enough in cash account to run it in that style. The New York Herald itself is independent, but there is not an editor or writer employed on it who is or who can be and maintain his place. The proprietor must have it run to suit himself generally, although there are crises when even Bennett himself has to succumb to the popular demand. The fact is, that while the great public all the time cry out that what is most needed is an independent newspaper, it is the same great public who proceed at once and sometimes violently to overthrow or break down any newspaper which is really independent, quite as savage islanders destroy the very idols they have professed the most respect for, when on certain occasions the unoffensive image failed to please or gratify them. No, no, don't talk about adopting or trying on the Euripidean high-toned method in this age of newspapers and public, wherein the one is made so subservient to the other in matters where an independence ought to be maintained and honored, but in which it is generally trampled down and proscribed.—Evening Journal.

Gamma Sigma Entertainment.

Forest Grove, Dec., 17, 1875.

ED. INDEPENDENT.—The entertainment given by the Gamma Sigma Society at the Congregational church in this place last evening was largely attended. At about half past seven o'clock the crowd ceased to pour in at the doors and the exercises began with some choice music by the choir after which prayer was offered by Rev. Thos. Condon, and then as Mrs. Partington would say, "More music was dispensed with, to an admiring audience." The exercises of the evening began in earnest by the delivery of a declamation—"Henry of Navarre"—by Mr. Fanno. This young man in his delivery gave evidence of much preparation, and his style, although too much impassioned for the subject, was pretty good.

The debate came next on the programme. The question was—Resolved: That it is inexpedient for the United States to declare the independence of Cuba." This question was discussed at some length by Messrs. Stott, Brown, Tamira, Curtis and Walker. The boys did very well and it is good discipline for them of course but these debates have always been tiresome to the majority of hearers.

Seymour Condon then sang a comic song which was excellent.

Mark Antony's oration over Caesar was then delivered by Mr. Latourette, the other parts being taken by Messrs. Smith, Parsons, Quick, Curtis, Barlow, Fanno and others. Caesar did not quite come up to the expectations of the audience. He flew the track by getting off of the board before the bearers got off the stage with him. The noble, togated Roman was lost in those boys with their execrable mustaches and modern style. The Chinese angels it is said have queues and it seems quite natural for the Roman Senators to have a perfumed mustache and high heeled boots when translated into Yankeeedom.

B. Roe then delivered a declamation, after which Mark Twain's "Scene in a Mining Camp," was rendered in an excellent manner by Sam Stott and others.

Mr. Smith "orated" on the subject—"Push on"—which was a very laudable effort.

An essay by H. Lyman jr., on Happiness followed and was an excellent thing.

The exercises closed with music—"Only Remembered by what I Have Done."

The entertainment taken as a whole had some very good points, and, as is common with amateur efforts, some that would not bear criticism.

CRITIC.

ORNITHOLOGY.

Lecture Fourth.

The close of the last lecture left us at Tree Birds; we have discussed the other two divisions. The slight characteristic marks which must be considered are of advantage to us, since thereby, our minds are enlarged and aided to become what they ought to be. There is a marked characteristic of wild Pigeons; they are known by a soft membrane or sac found at the base of the bill. Of flesh-eating birds there are three families: Owls, Vultures, and Falcons. The first has four peculiar marks to distinguish it: 1. It flies noiselessly on account of its soft plumage; 2. The feathers about the eye radiate; 3. Its eyes are set further forward than in other birds and hence its vision is keen; 4. One of its toes is versatile, i. e. if you look at a living specimen you will see that sometimes toes are in pairs or again three in front and one behind. Vultures (Turkey Buzzards) are known by their bald heads; their bills, also are notched, and generally, they are less strong than Falcons, which catch their living prey. Falcons including the remaining flesh-eating birds have short and curved, strong bills, stout talons, and are generally built for strength.

In the Polyphagous group the Hummingbird, a native of the American continent and its islands, stands first. It is called *trochiliformis* from its long slender bill which, may be used for extracting insects rather than honey from flowers. Its two outer toes are *syndactyl*, i. e. united as far as the second joint. The night Hawk has a long pointed wing; a peculiar mark is the broad flattened bill; a big mouth, consequently, is its provision for catching food while it flies. The Cuckoo may be studied from a bird of the same family, the Woodpecker; difference being that the latter has a chisel bill; ending like a gauge and adapted to extract its food (bugs, worms, etc.) from beneath the bark of trees; the Cuckoo's bill is curved and less strong. Sap-sucker's, so called, Woodpeckers and all this tribe, are sometimes called as climbers, although clumsy at the operation. Their toes are in pairs, all adapted to cracking nuts, cutting soft branches, etc. The Snipe has a bill and head similar to that of a bird of prey, yet has a weak foot. Is called the Butcher bird sometimes. Verros are classed as an suborder of the Snipe. Flycatchers, again, have a flattened bill. The Waxing is so-called from red specks, like sealings, on its wing; Cedar bird is another name for it. Swallows go to know stay about, a part of the year. Their food is taken from the air. Orioles, Tanagers, and Finches can be distinguished by peculiarities of the bill. That of the latter is short, when shut forms a cone; open, it is slightly angulated. Canaries are a species of the Finch, and we know the use made of their heavy bill. Tanagers seem to have the head and bill in one piece; their peculiarity is a notch or scallion in the bill. An Oriole is differently formed about the head from the others. It builds a pendant nest. At the head of Osobies, (Songsters) is placed the Thrush or Robin; with the mark of a booted tarsus or smooth-skinned leg. In this whole group of singing birds much uncertainty exists in the classification. Yet the absurd ways of arranging birds according to their kinds of nests, plumage or habits, has prevailed. To let their structure determine, is what we have done. Still there are many more in testing facts to learn from them. Among birds are Myners, Masons, Carpenters, Basket Makers, Tailors, Weavers, and the Cements, which in Java, build those nests esteemed as delicacies for food. The question of dress of birds might be pleasantly followed through various periodical changes of plumage. At one time birds were arranged into three orders, as those using for cleansing; water and dust or both. Birds evidently have a language and some notes of it are understood by different species and even by other animals. The gait and flight of birds is peculiar and can be understood only by observation. Finally birds are better friends and less enemies to man than any other of the lower animals. To hear some names it would seem that hawks ate chickens only, or Sap-Suckers destroyed orchards. It is not so. Birds from the Crow up and down the scale benefit man many times more than they injure him, yet for two things we may kill them. 1st For Scientific purposes. 2nd When necessary for food. The study of Nature in its purity is commended to each and every one. One or two lectures would be required in which to present fully the subject of the Birds. This would be a most pertinent, practical study.

The lecture will not something over 1/2 of the amount needed to purchase Rev. Mr. Knight's collection for the T. A. & P. U.

The Rochester Express says that tight trousers are no longer worn. This is not true. At any rate, we saw a man yesterday in tight trousers. It was difficult to tell, though, which was the tighter, the man or the trousers.—Courier Journal.

Watterson must have seen double. Most likely what he mistook for a tight man in tight trousers was a feminine loose in the streets with a one-legged dress on. A man can't always tell these days.—Evening Journal.

Better keep your secrets for the confessional, O'Meara. So it was not Watterson that took a miss but you, O Jamie. Be more careful of those one-legged dresses henceforth and you will be happy.

THERE are 100,000,000 Protestants and 185,000,000 Catholics and 1,000,000,000 heathens—not counting Brig. Young.

OUR navy, according to Secretary Robeson, is comprised of 147 vessels, all told, carrying 1,195 guns and 152,492 tons measurement.

Support your home paper.

National Taxes and Increasing Expenditures.

The appropriations voted by the Forty-third Congress, first session, to carry on the Government of the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1875, aggregated \$183,741,112. This includes for 1873 and 74 amounting to \$8,275,399. It does not cover any part of the interest on the public debt, but does cover \$29,980,000 for pensions. The interest for that year may be stated at \$103,000,000. This brings the total expenditures up to \$286,741,112. Deducting the pension account from the figures first above written, we have for the ordinary current expenditures of the Government for the year ending June 30, 1875, the sum of \$153,762,112. The reader will bear in mind that this was in a year of profound peace at home and abroad, and that it is exclusive of interest on the National debt and of pensions.

It will be interesting to compare this bill of costs with the expenditures of the Government in the past years, when we had to run nearly the same machinery, and when the country's population ranged from 3,500,000 to 25,000,000 upwards.

The administration of President Washington dated from March 4, 1789. The average annual expenditures were \$1,986,588.

John Adams' administration covered the next four years, ending March 8, 1801; and the average yearly expenditures were \$5,287,088.

Jefferson was President for the eight years ending March, 1809. Average expenditures, \$5,142,598—a reduction of \$144,490 per annum on the preceding Administration.

Madison served for the eight years ending March 4, 1817. Average expenditures, \$18,035,617. In this Administration the country had a four years' war with England, waged by land and sea. Hence the great increase of average expenditures.

Monroe held office for the eight years ending March 4, 1825. Average annual expenditures, (exclusive of payments on account of the war debt,) \$13,045,431.

John Quincy Adams was President from March 4, 1825, to March 4, 1829. Average expenditures, (exclusive of payments on account of the war debt,) \$12,625,478—a decrease of \$419,853 per annum from the preceding eight years' average.

Jackson was President for the eight years ending March 4, 1837. Average per year, \$18,068,301. Indian wars in Florida beginning during this administration, and the Black Hawk war in the West, raised the expenditures.

Van Buren was President for the next four years, ending March 4, 1845. Average annual expenditures, \$28,047,173. The Florida war still continued during this administration and proved to be a very costly one. It was under Van Buren that one Samuel Swarthout distinguished himself as a first conspicuous public plunderer and defaulter.

The administrations of Harrison and Tyler covered the four years from March 4, 1841, to March 4, 1845. Average yearly expenditure, \$23,541,248—a decrease from the preceding four years of \$4,506,565 per annum. The appropriations for the postal department alone for the year ending June 30, 1875, were \$35,756,091, and for the same year the army (25,000) cost \$27,780,500.

Polk's term ended March 4, 1849. About the time first emigrants were preparing to come from the East to California. Average expenditures \$36,681,101. The sudden increase of over \$13,000,000 a year was on account of the war with Mexico, waged during this administration.

The Taylor and Fillmore administration ended March 4, 1853. Average annual expenditure, \$41,805,721. And this included the payments made on account of the Mexican War debt.

Pierce's administration closed March 4, 1857. Average expenditures, \$55,872,027.

Since then twenty-two years have passed, and the increase in peace expenditures has been enormously out of proportion to the increase of population. The postal and army departments cost more last year than it cost yearly during Pierce's administration to run the entire government. It is clear that unless we soon reform the abuses which have crept into the administration, we shall have the most extravagant government and tax-ridden people in the world. It cost more last year to take care of less than 250,000 Indians than it cost in Jefferson's time to govern the whole nation, then not less than 6,000,000. It costs now as much to run the postal service as it did 26 years ago, under Van Buren, (with a severe Indian war on hand) to conduct the entire government; and the whisky ring alone has, in one year, defrauded the treasury out of as much as the average annual expenditures during the eight years of Washington's presidency.—S. F. Bulletin.

A NICE-looking girl who graduated at Vassar College and now keeps house for an industrious young man, said the other day that she'd rather have a good recipe for making sweet pickles than to be able to read a yard of Latin. Out of thirty-five young ladies who studied all the branches taught in that popular Summer resort, twenty-seven of them married poor men, and of course a good recipe for pickles or huckleberry jam lays way over Greek and mathematics to keep house with.

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

Congressional.

Bills have been introduced in Congress to modify the tax on tobacco; to repeal the Resumption Act of 1875; against subsidies or land grants to railroads; to reduce the rates of postage on letters after March 1, 1876, to one cent per half ounce; to allow duties to be paid in legal tender notes; to restore the franking privilege for the Congressional Record and public documents; to have Congress regulate inter-State railroad transportation rates for the protection of commercial and agricultural interests; to enable Utah to form a State government; to allow the people of Territories to elect their own Governors and Territorial officers; by Luttrell, to allow the pre-emption of 640 acres of land for grazing at 50 cts. per acre, to not be used for speculation; to remove all internal revenue taxes from brandy made of apples, peaches, grapes or other fruit; to repeal duty on grain sacks, bagging used for grain, cotton, wool, burlaps and gunny cloth; by Lane, to appropriate \$181,000 to pay Oregon claims in the Mexican war, and \$45,000 for similar claims in California; for the construction of a canal at the Cascades of the Columbia; for the reimbursement of California, Oregon and Nevada expenses incurred during the late rebellion; to annex Alaska to Washington Territory; to annex Walla Walla Co., W. T., to Oregon.

A resolution to reduce the regular army to 10,000 at a yearly cost of \$20,000 was adopted; also a resolution against a third term for President was adopted by a vote of 232 to 18.

Amendments relating to the President and against third term were presented for action—by Harrison, to retire the President as a Senator at large for life after one term; by Morrison, to fix the term at six years, and make the President ineligible in any term of twelve years; by Rankin, to fix the term at six years, after the next Presidential election, and to make the incumbent ineligible to re-election—the Vice President as well, if the Presidency devolves upon him.

SCISSORINGS.

Willie was disputing with his sister, "it is true," said he firmly, "for mother says so, and if she says so, it is so, if it ain't so."

"Mike have you settled that affair with Dennis?" "Yes, he kicked me out of the stoop last week, and since that he has stopped bothering me."

A doctor and preacher were bandying words on physical prowess. "One blow from my fist," said the D. D., "would show you the meaning of 'blue mass.'" "And one blow from mine," says the M. D., "would be a new and cheap method of spreading the gospel."

A Negro being asked what he was in jail for, it was for borrowing money. "But said the questioner, 'they don't put people in jail for borrowing money.'" "Yes, said the darkey, "but I had to knock the man down two or three times before he would lend it to me."

A lady who had lately succeeded in not catching an outgoing train at Massillon, Ohio, stood gazing at it with her arms full of packages, and her eyes full of tears, when a gentleman arrived at the depot on a run, with a valise in hand, his coat on his arm, and his face streaming with perspiration. He sat down on his valise and said "damn it!" Whereupon the lady sweetly smiled and earnestly said: "Thank you, sir; that is just what I wanted to say exactly."

A lady school teacher in a town in California, having an inordinate dread of the small-pox, sent home a little girl because she said her mother was sick and had marks on her face. The next day the girl appeared at the school house with her finger in mouth and her little bonnet swinging by the strings, and said to the teacher: "Miss—, we've got a leech-baby at our house, but mother told me to tell you it isn't catching."

The teacher said she was glad, and told her to take her seat.—New Northwest.

A smart looking young woman stepped up to tell her wrongs in a London police court. She had peeped through Mrs. Perkins' key-hole and seen her faithless husband with his arms encircling that lady's waist. The door was fastened. She knocked, and there stood Mrs. Perkins alone, looking the very picture of innocence. "I look's round, your Worship, and sees my 'llian's cut-tail-a-sticking of Mrs. Perkins' cupboard. I pulled him out and I scratched his face, I did, and he can't deny it. And I wants your Worship's advice what I'm to do with him; and I put it to your Worship what would be the feelings of your Worship's good lady if she saw your worship's coat-tail-a-sticking out of another lady's coal cupboard?"

CARLYLE ON COLLEGE TILES.—HE SNUBS HARVARD.—Mr. Carlyle declines with scorn the degree of LL. D., conferred by Harvard University. American universities, he says, are "silliest sham feasters," and that he should be asked to "join in heading your long line of D. D.'s and LL. D.'s—a line of pompous little fellows hobbling down to posterity on the crutches of two or three letters of the alphabet, passing on to the oblivion of all universities and small potatoes"—is more than he can bear.—Liverpool Daily Post.

Chile

Something About a Leading South American Republic.

VALPARAISO, August 24, 1875. The Republic of Chile is divided politically into twelve provinces, with a population of two millions and a half, and comprises an area, of 249,952 square miles. Each province has a Governor (Intendente,) Civil and Criminal Judges, Attorney General and other officers necessary to carry on the Government. These officers are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, and hold office for five years. They are not subject to removal for political offense. The Judges hold office for life, and after forty years service are entitled to a pension equal to one half their salary.

Taxation.

There is no tax levied on real estate. The farmers pay a tax on their gross incomes. Merchants pay a tax as follows: Those of the first class, \$2,000 per annum; those of the second class, \$1,000 per annum; those of the third class, \$500. Retail merchants pay from \$100 to \$25 per annum. All professions and trades have to pay a license (patente) for transacting business.

Agriculture.

The principal agricultural productions are wheat, barley, beans, peas, and potatoes. The wheat is mostly shipped to Europe. Peru and Bolivia are exclusively supplied from Chile with flour, vegetables etc. Peru in return, supplies almost all the sugar consumed in Chile.

Mines.

Gold is found in the mountain streams, but not in paying quantities. The silver mines of Caracoles, Chancay and Tros-Puntas has dimmed the reputation of Potosi, and are only second to those of the Comstock ledge in Nevada. In copper, Chile has no competitor in the world. During the year 1874 there were shipped from ports in Chile to Europe bar copper to the amount of \$8,000,000. Most of this copper contained 10 per cent of gold. Coal is found in the southern portion of the Republic, and of an excellent quality. At the ports of Coronel and Lota it is supplied alongside the vessels at \$4 per ton.

Foreign Debt and Railroads

Most of the foreign debt contracted by Chile has been expended in building railroads, all of which are owned by the Government. These roads are kept in excellent repair, and pay annually 10 per cent dividends. First class passengers pay at the rate of four cents per mile; freight, ten dollars per ton for 100 miles.

Election Laws.

The President of the Republic is elected for five years. He nominates his Cabinet to the Senate for confirmation. No person can vote unless he can read and write and be of good moral character; he must have resided in the province one year, and in the district where he votes six months. He must, six days before election, present himself to the Board of Registration, and upon taking the required oath he is furnished with a certificate which entitles him to vote. On election day he first presents to one of the Judges his certificate, and upon the Judge pronouncing it correct he then hands his vote to another Judge. In this manner there can be no stuffing of ballot-boxes, as the number of certificates must correspond to the number of votes.

Valparaiso.

This is the principal seaport of the Republic. The recent census shows the population to be 102,000; 49,948 men, 50,901 women and 10,084 children of both sexes. Most of the wholesale trade is in the hands of English merchants. The jobbing and retail trade is divided among Germans, French and natives. There are a few American merchants in Valparaiso; among the principal are Hammenway & Co., who have a monthly line of sailing vessels running between Boston and this port. The cargoes of these vessels consist mostly of cotton goods, furniture, hardware and refined petroleum, and take to Boston, wool, hides and copper ore. Augustus Hammenway has ordered built in England six steamers of 2,000 tons each, to take the place of the sailing vessels. They will run from this port to Boston via the Straits of Magellan, calling at Rio Janeiro and Montevideo. I regret to say that these vessels will be under the English flag.

California Criminals in Chile

There being no extradition treaty between the United States and this Republic, we have amongst us many of the thieves and murderers from the North Pacific Coast. Hammenway, who committed forgeries on many of the California street stock brokers, is now working at dentistry in Santiago, under the name of Davis. Another young man who committed frauds on Wells Fargo & Co., is also in Santiago engaged in the money brokerage. The celebrated Woodward who with Bill Tweed and others robbed the city of New York, has resided in this city with a woman whom he called his wife. They went under the name of Tatern. On last April they left here for Rio Janeiro. The murderer Tip McLaughlin, is in Peru, and through the aid of Mr. Thomas Baker, formerly of Hastings' Bank in Sacramento, he obtained employment from Henry Meiggs. Through his propensity for drinking bad rum he lost his situation. He is now working on the Chimbotte Railroad, north of Callao.

This man McLaughlin was sentenced to be hung by the District Court of Sacramento, and through the aid of his chums made his escape out of the Court House after sentence had been passed upon him. He stated in Peru that an ex-Detective Policeman and Ward Politician of San Francisco aided him to get out of the country.

Laws Relating to Newspaper Subscriptions, &c.

1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary, are considered willing to continue their subscription.
2. If subscribers order the discontinuance of their periodicals, the publisher may continue to send them until all arrearages are paid.
3. If subscribers neglect or refuse their periodicals from the office to which they directed, they are held responsible until they are settled their bills, and ordered them discontinued.
4. If subscribers move to other places without informing the publishers, and the papers are sent to the former direction they are held responsible.

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