

OREGON SENTINEL

JACKSONVILLE, OREGON. SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 1888. EDITORIAL NOTES.

The reduction of the public debt for July was \$7,900,560 68.

The "Courier Journal" is supporting Tilden lustily. Cause Tilden has a mortgage of 200,000 on it—that's a solid reason.

Ex Congressman Page thinks Arthur and Gresham will be the strongest ticket the Republicans can nominate next year. Agreed.

The increase of school children in Oregon this year has been over 4,000. This is pretty good for a dry season and proves true the old saying that crops never fail in Oregon.

The editor of the "Tidings" is either dyspeptic or has been patrolling the two newly licensed gin mills in Ashland. When a man is stupidly determined not to understand anything he had better go to Soda Springs where there is no fog.

Another infernal fog, Capt. J. D. Rhodes, proposes to swim in Capt. Webb's track in the Niagara rapids and find out what hurt the latter. No matter if this new adventurer gets safely through, it will hardly make the rapids a favorite bathing place.

Bishop Morris of the Episcopal diocese in his report to conference advocates the establishment of an Episcopal church in Jacksonville. There are a number of persons here brought up in that faith and, no doubt, the scheme would be attended with success.

The last spike is to be driven on the North Pacific on September 8th. A number of distinguished visitors from Germany will be present and, on condition that we be present with the spike, which will be a golden one, we will witness the ceremonies—otherwise not.

The "Oregonian" claims the credit of heading the advertised letter list as the "Men & Women" list instead of the "Gentlemen & Ladies" list. We had given the credit to P M Steel but yield it to the "Oregonian" as a common sense departure from a foolish and false conventionalism.

The Scotch banking company threaten to withdraw their capital from Oregon because their mortgages are taxed. As the mortgages of money lenders who are citizens of our State are taxed also we fail to see where there is any injustice done. The truth is these corporations want the whole goose, gizzard feathers and all, and the quicker they take their clutches off our people the better for the latter.

The Mormons have carried every thing in the Utah election. Just as we predicted the Edmunds bill is a signal failure and curing polygamy with it as probable as curing leprosy by washing the patient with mill and water. When polygamy is treated as bigamy is elsewhere it may become in convenient or, when the whole lecherous gang are driven out of Utah the territory will be purified, not till then.

The Telegraph Superintendent in San Francisco was over hasty when he published a statement that W. J. Wallis, of Yreka, cut the connection when he left the office. He walked out leaving the connection unbroken and the duplex instruments in perfect balance and working between San Francisco and Portland. In justice to Mr. Wallis who has many friends in Yreka and here we, correct this statement on the authority of the two young gentlemen who went out with him.

The "State Journal" says there is an ordinance in Eugene City requiring cows to be "unloaded" at night but declines to express an opinion as to whether a cow should be allowed to sleep with a bell on or not. Why not? If a cow would only go to sleep and not ding along her infernal bell right under a sleeper's windows till a fellow is all "broke up" she might have forty of them hung to her neck and forty more to her tail. But, as a cow seems to think that her bell is to be one of the voices of the night, made on purpose to keep folks from sleeping too soundly, and they prefer sleeping in the day time, either the cow or the bell should be abolished. If there are many cow bells in Eugene City it is no wonder that her outraged citizens passed that ordinance. We could stand a calliope or a Chinese gong mingling their soft sweet strains with the tender symphonic of dreams land, but the changeless, brassy, rattleless clatter of a busy cow bell is too much to ask poor tired human nature to bear and we are surprised at the "Journal's" fear to take a decided stand on the question. Count us every time, against cow bells, yapping curs, fiddles out of tune, or accordions in tune as the worst enemies of "Monsieur" ever known to drowsy humanity.

OREGON FARMING.

The following is from the "Salem Weekly Talk" and applies as forcibly to Jackson county as to any other portion of Oregon. The only preposterous thing in it is the idea of asking an Oregon farmer to make use of manure—it is so much easier to get it out of the way by burning it up. The "Talk" says:

A short trip into the country shows us that, in many cases, we can no longer say that we never failed to have a crop for in many places the "fruits of our labor" are so very scattering that a harvest will scarcely average only about a two-thirds yield. This helps to confirm the idea in our mind, what we have heretofore advocated, that our farmers should have less wheat and more mixed farming. A few choice brood sows with fine litters of pigs can be kept with fair profit, even in a dry season when a wheat crop is so near a failure that it will not pay the necessary expense attending its production. Some oats, rye and barley can often be grown with profit when wheat is a failure. More especially is barley a profitable crop, and is a rapid, quick growth, and if the soil is in a proper state of cultivation and it is sown in season, it will be ready for harvest before it is badly affected by the drought even in dry seasons. In order to grow barley with profit it wants sowing early and have the soil rich and in a high state of cultivation. I can see no good reason why barley cannot be made to do substantially for Oregon what corn has done and is doing for Illinois in fattening pork, as it certainly makes about the best substitute we have for corn for that purpose. Cattle and horses are in good demand and can be raised at an advantage and with profit. If each farmer would practice raising a few head of fine cattle and horses, they would not only receive the benefits of their growth and income, but would have the manure with which to enrich their lands. Dairymen in the East make cheese at a profit at from 10 to 12 cents per pound while the same commodity here is worth 25 cents per pound. There is no better climate for dairy purposes in the United States than Oregon affords, and she can produce just as rich, nutritious grasses as any State in the Union. While this may not be a fact in every locality, yet it is in almost every instance. Then why do not our farmers engage more in dairy business, in growing cattle, sheep, hogs, and a general mixed farming than they do? Can it be because they lack the ambition?

THE RESULT OF IT.

The long continuance of the telegraph strike has so thoroughly disgusted the public with the hogish disposition of the monster monopoly that many merchants are depending entirely on the mails as a medium of correspondence. Many of the strikers, who compose a body of the most reliable and intelligent young men in the country, are gradually drifting into other employments as an emancipation from a species of slavery to which they will probably not return. The result therefore, of a strike forced by the growing rapacity of the Western Union in issuing an order increasing the working hours of already over-worked men will be loss only to themselves. The loss will be two fold; the public will become more habituated to the use of the mails and withdraw such of their patronage. The old and skilled employees of the company will be lost to them, by a sorption in other and better paying pursuits, and it will be years before they can be replaced. The public sympathy is with the strikers who have behaved in an unexceptionally orderly manner and have done no act of violence since the strike began and the sympathy is shown by the least possible patronage of the telegraph company. Another better result will be the forcing of the people into the belief that the almost exclusive control of the telegraphic service by one corporation is as dangerous as the sole management of all the railways in the country could be. When the public see this question in its true light the service will be cheapened, quickened and made much more satisfactory by the people controlling it themselves as they should do. When this is done it will be out of the power of a lying Associated Press association to play into the hands of the telegraph company by giving what news they please, withholding what they like or shading it all to suit their own purposes.

THE CURRY COUNTY "POST" SAYS:

The crew of the "Sierra" killed 264 sea lions last Sunday, and the crew of the "Laura," 54. This is whole sailing the business. The "Sierra" has taken over 700 off of Orford reef this season, and the "Laura" more than 200; and lions appear to be as plenty as ever.

EQUAL TAXATION.

The discussion of the "mortgage tax" law in this State recalls a case in Jackson county that upsets all theories of political economy and makes money the real value instead of the representative. A citizen of Jacksonville loaned \$4,500 on a ranch. Being an honest man he paid taxes on the full amount of the note for several years making no attempt to hide the investment. Subsequently he made improvements on the place costing him \$1,500 more making \$6000 cash invested. Finally he was obliged to take the ranch for his claim and the very first year it was in his possession the assessor fixed its value at \$2,500. Since that valuation the ranch has been sold to a California party for \$8000, cash, and if the Assessor increases the valuation this year he will only acknowledge a previous error. Now, is taxation equal? or is real estate made to bear its just share of taxation? Certainly not for if the last owner of the land referred to were found in possession of \$8000 he would have been taxed on that amount, as it is, he has exchanged it for land and, for purposes of taxation, has virtually hidden two thirds of it away. The equality of taxation under our system, that places full power to fix valuations with the assessor, is all moonshine and is an actual inequality and unfairness is the only argument against the mortgage tax law and, we must confess, it is no without weight. Now that law reaches money holders and prevents them from hiding their wealth. Thus far it is good and if some plan could be devised to ascertain the actual value of land and give a quality could be arrived at. It is notorious that, in every county many farms are taxed at only about one eighth of the selling value placed on them by their owners while he who owns a twenty dollar piece is not allowed a mill reduction. The truth is there is too much power placed in the hands of an officer who too frequently uses it only to make himself popular and secure a new election. Pay the assessor for doing his duty one term and make him ineligible thereafter for any office and he would have no objection but that of the public or sufficient make his office a life one.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1.

We have repeatedly referred to the small industries connected with farm life as making up part of the profits of the farm—possible when we have fairly train to Portland or San Francisco—and below give the experience of a Californian given in the "Cultural Press":

Having had some experience with chickens, and having kept an account and profit account, I will give a few figures. I commenced with a few hens, and in about six months I raised 750 eggs to the hen. At another time I had about 300 hens. I had to buy my feed, which cost about \$18 per month, and I sold for about twenty months ago for \$60 a dozen of eggs per month. For the other five months of the year the profits were about two thirds as great. I then began to farm 80 acres. My first crop of 50 acres of wheat was broken and after getting it stacked I estimated that if I had a drought I could not make \$300 out of it. So I let the hens scratch for me. I don't know how long it took, but a year from the time the wheat came I had out over \$400 worth of eggs and had about half the work left. The next year I had 1000 hens and sold as high as \$28 a dozen of eggs for months. When I first began to make large profits I bought a truck to haul out last season that eggs would be as cheap as in the first, but as the market has been getting better for the last three years, eggs touching 52 cents the last two years, I concluded it was a safe and profitable business. Some of my hens are four years old. I sold one a 335 recently, getting 26 per dozen for most of them. There is no doubt that the raising of poultry and eggs might be made to pay well in the West. Chickens and eggs are nearly always in good demand here. I would suggest other points if the local market should become overstocked.

Jeff Davis is reported as sitting under a pine tree at a camp meeting singing hymns with his daughter and he has but two wishes—to see a democratic administration and Jeff Davis in heaven. He has probably been persecuting the well known line: "While the lamp lies out to burn, &c." and his wish for the success of the democratic party should be the last nail in the coffin of his conscience.

A Portland exchange says "fine bricks are going up on every hand" The air must be dreadful light in Portland but, as the same paper says "there were 210 drunks in Port and during the same months" it is inferential that 210 of the "drunks" belonged to many hats and didn't get very high.

The State Fair will open at Salem on the 17th and continue five days. Look out for rain just about the 18th.

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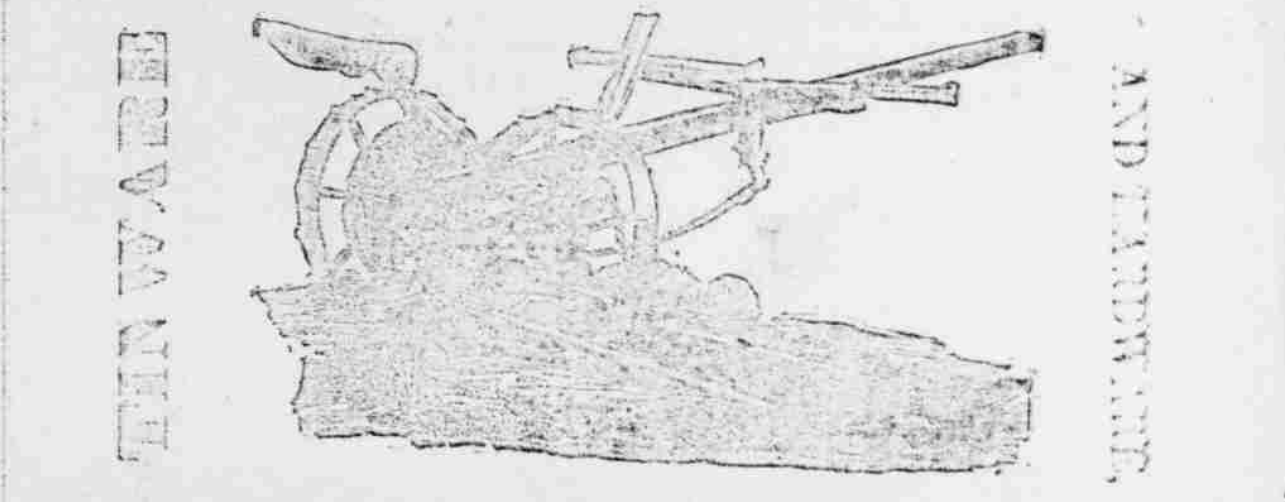
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