

The Weekly Enterprise.

Oregon City, Oregon:

C. C. HINRICHSEN, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

Saturday, August 3, 1867.

WALLA WALLA FAIR.—The Walla Walla County Agricultural Society will hold its annual Fair on the 2d, 3d, 4th, and 5th of October.

HORN SO.—The Walla Walla *Solemn* is surprised to learn that the Oregon City Paper Manufacturing Company was not a decided success, and hopes that the mill will yet fall into hands of men who will make it pay.

A NEW CHOICE.—A leading Democratic sheet in San Francisco has struck a new chord. It appeals to the fears of its party, and says that the only way in which to avoid civil war in California is to elect Mr. Height.

OREGON POST OFFICE.—Mr. J. A. MacDonald has received all the papers necessary, and assumed the duties of Post Master, at Oregon. His office is on Green street, and is very conveniently situated.

WILL.—Mr. S. L. Farnsworth, who has taken hold with a will and determination at that new town, he has already built two or three houses, and has further improvements in contemplation. Mr. MacDonald will act as agent for the *Enterprise* at Oswego, and subscribers there will find the papers at his office on Saturday evening of each week.

GOVERNMENT IMPROVEMENTS.—A small vessel is being fitted at Celilo, to be used in improving the Columbia River above Umatilla. It is thought that a good stage of water may be had as far up Lewiston on Snake river, after this service is performed. This will be fine for the Lewiston folks.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.—The despatches this week are not worth printing. Santa Anna is dead—die, and alive to-morrow. The National Base Ball Club of Washington City are yet on their travels, but were beaten at the little town of Rockford, Illinois. Incendiary fires are destroying large amounts of property at various points in the Atlantic States.

LEARNING TO DRIVE.—We hear from New York that Mr. John Mason is en route to the Pacific States again. He has traveled over a large part of Europe during his absence, and assures us that he has become better educated in the art of driving than he was when, on one occasion a few years since, his carriage failed to climb a lamp post on Front street Portland, while we were with him, taking a ride.

THE OREGONIAN.—The new steamship *Oregonian* will not run to Portland. She has become the property of the North American Steamship Company, and will run to Panama in connection with the *Norfolk*, in opposition to the Pacific Mail Company's steamer. This we have from a reliable source. Also, we learn that this company will run the *Moses Taylor* and a steamer on the other side, via the Nicaragua route. This line have now the finest ships afloat.

HISTORICAL PROGRESS.—We observe by our exchanges that the University at Salem have lately conferred several honorary titles upon distinguished persons in Oregon. This we presume is done without charge to the recipients. Not so with Mr. Wm. Hoffman of Portland, however. While in that City a few days since we observed that he conferred the title of D. D. upon an individual not so popular, and charged him \$5 for the service.

CENSUS.—The *Oregonian* last Tuesday had well written article on the subject of census, to be made by Knapp, Burrill, and Co., who are preparing to manufacture 50,000 barrels a month is necessary. From the quaries of Prof. Hopkins opposite Astoria, the *Heald* is also very different nature. Mr. Brown wishes to cement the bonds of brotherly love. To forgive and forget, etc., which is surely commendable, if the past could be made to appear as an error in the new light.

SENATOR WILLIAMS.—The Republicans of this city have taken steps to secure at least one good speech from Senator Williams before he leaves for the East. We were told that the Senator lays out a fine plan of the work the party ought to do for the next two years, and speaking for oneself individually—we speak for nobody else in a political line—we should like to hear him. We regret that the movement was not made early enough to allow us time to state the result this week, as we are anxious to have our countrymen in the state, and we have in view a general election.

NATIONAL BANK.—The *Securities* of the Times' New York correspondent says:

"We note a larger export of domestic produce, and a considerable shipment of specie."

The reports of the growing crops continue most encouraging, and there is a prospect that the yield of cotton in the Southern States this year will be double that of last. It is useless to deny that this country feels a degree of buoyancy to-day that it has not experienced in a year past, and we trust that the harvest will be all that it promises, North and South. If nothing disappoints our great mercantile and manufacturing interests, we shall evidently realize a better fall trade than we have had in several seasons. We note the arrival of twelve thousand emigrants last week, against ten thousand the previous week, and we hope that the tide will be turned in our favor.

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PEACEABLE NAVIGATION COMPANY.—The *Enterprise* says the above named company have not with very good success in the sale of shares, in their joint-stock navigation enterprise. This is the more satisfactory because on it depend cheap freights and passage on the Sound. If, from any unforeseen circumstance, this Company should be compelled to, or voluntarily withdraw their steamer from the Sound, and we be left to the soulless monopoly, that so long sapped the life of trade and made it a serious thing to think of going fromore to Victoria and return. It would, to draw it mild, be a cause of general regret. Cheap passage has already started a stream of travel by this route between Oregon, California and the Colony to the North. Let this be checked because of exorbitant charges and the effect will be immediate and injurious. There are other and weighty considerations which command this enterprise to the citizens and traders of Puget Sound, and we believe that in a few weeks we can announce that every dollar of the stock is taken. The capital stock of the company is fixed at \$80,000 in eight hundred shares of \$100 each. It should all be taken immediately.

NEW COASTAL STEAMER.—We have information from a reliable source showing us that the excellent in San Francisco about the "new Island" lately discovered in the Pacific, goes precisely from the fact that the Pacific Mail Company were fitting out a coal ship, to supply a station far on the new route to China. They had no intention of taking the late reported "discovery"—but have so far their steamer to Brooks Islands and shoals, in latitude 28° 12' north, longitude 177° 12' West, discovered on the 5th of July 1859, by a friend of ours who was on a cruise in the Hawaiian bark *Gambier* that year. The memoranda of the *Gambier*, on that cruise, is now the most reliable chart masters and commanders have on that long route. The Pacific ocean is full of dangerous shoals and islands, and Government should see to it that better surveys are made at once.

OBSTRUCTION AGAIN.—A new company has been formed to run a line of screw steamers between San Francisco and Portland. Three ships will be here to engage in the trade in about five months. It is said that Mr. Ralston, of the Bank of California is interested in it.

What makes Panics?

Asked a leading citizen of Portland, of us, a few days ago. One who is versed in financial matters, by the way, and invests by the thousands. According to the best authorities, panics are caused especially by sudden fright without real cause, or by a trifling cause or misapprehension of danger. We think the present fear of a panic, has more to do with making dull times than the real facts of the case will warrant. We have never felt disposed to admit that there was actual danger to our finances ahead. The country never before was so prosperous—because there was never before known a time when money was so abundant. We believe \$300,000 could be obtained on good securities at the three banking houses of Portland any moment. We are informed that \$18,000 is lying uncalled for in the banks of San Francisco. Go to the Atlantic States and more money is found seeking investment than can possibly find takers. In Europe the same state of things exist. Money is actually cheaper now than it was ever known to be. This being the case, a panic, in the general acceptance of the term is impossible, but the fear of a crash causes people to such an extent as we see it now in Oregon—by dull times.

Again, the question arises: Are there not many to be had? This being the case, the jury would be object to for similar reasons; and all that the jury would have to guide them in finding their verdict would be the disjointed evidence of witnesses, and of witnesses not always truthful, and the instructions of the judge on the law—a state of things which, though it might favor the escape of criminals, would not aid the innocent.

It is not necessary to defend these rare cases in which juries fall into the error of assuming the guilty man before he is tried, and raising a storm of public indignation against him. The question of prejudice is often raised where nothing has been done but draw a graphic picture of the crime and its surroundings. The influence of newspapers in swaying the decision of crime is undoubtedly one of the most powerful instruments in the hands of society, by the publicity which they give to every detail they put hundreds of people on the search for evidence and on the track of the real criminal, whom the police, without that aid could never catch. The first business of daily journals is to give news of the passing events to the reading public, but incidentally they become agents of the police in the investigation of crime. But though newspapers do in this way work against the guilty, they also labor for the innocent. No innocent man probably was ever hung through well constructed newspapers precluding the minds of the jury against him when there was nothing politic in his defense, but thoughs have won their lives and liberty to the industry of newspaper writers in hunting up details and calling attention to facts of apparently trifling import. When ingenious counsel, when learned judges, when patient and intelligent juries have done their work: when closing appeals have ended, when charges from the Bench have been delivered, when verdicts have been rendered, when sentences have been passed, and the prisoners have been remitted to the executioner's cell, with no hope of having it except for the place of execution, even then in the last hour, when all was dark, and hope in human aid was with such extinguished, newspapers have saved innocent lives. The counsel who inveigles against the influence of respectable journals, and charges them with prejudicing his client's case, by that he confesses the prisoner's guilt. The newspapers are and always have been co-thinkers with the defense for securing the triumphant acquittal of innocent men.

NEW YORK.—We hold, says a New York writer of June 2d, that the banking business of the country should not be left in the hands of the Government; but if it is, let it substitute legal tenders for the three hundred millions of National Bank Notes, and secure the most uniform currency possible for the people, short of gold and silver, the only true and unchangeable representatives of value. It is also now conceded that there will not only be no contraction of the currency, but that the great West demand a further issue of paper money, and this will be issued by Congress as soon as possible. Indeed there are influential men who are discussing the feasibility of paying off the \$2,000,000,000 debt at once through the creation and issue of greenbacks to that amount. We must heartily hope that this will be done, will be well with extinguished newspapers have saved innocent lives. The counsel who inveigles against the influence of respectable journals, and charges them with prejudicing his client's case, by that he confesses the prisoner's guilt. The newspapers are and always have been co-thinkers with the defense for securing the triumphant acquittal of innocent men.

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