

FORTY ACRES LOST

AN UNCLAIMED TRACT OF THAT SIZE ON BIRCH CREEK.

The Problem is as to its Exact Location: Is it on the Top of a Barren, Windy Hill, or is it a Rich Field of Alfalfa, Bottom Land? Effort to Decide the Question by a Special Survey.

John Shull and James J. Stubblefield, both of this city, are after some nice government land that is to be found, according to the plat, in the Birch creek country, a few miles below town. Some time ago, while looking over the plat, it was discovered that there is a nice 40-acre tract through which the creek runs, and which had never been taken up by anyone. It was thought by the location on the plat that the land ought to be of the best in the country, and the gentlemen decided to investigate.

In order that those living on the land should not tumble to what they were about, the two gentlemen put some horses in a pasture adjoining the tract, and a short time after wards came out to view their stock. They went over the land in good shape, and came back to town and filed on the tract.

Saturday afternoon the two men went out to take possession of their new filing. Now this particular land is owned, or at least is occupied, by David Ingram and a neighbor named Sullivan, and is needed to alfalfa while Sullivan has his house on one corner of the place, and naturally when the newcomers stated that it was their intention to locate on the land, the old residents were somewhat surprised.

Shull and Stubblefield showed their authority in their plats, and were pointed to the top of a nearby hill, upon which the only thing that will grow is rock. Not even dirt will long remain on the 40 acres left unclaimed, and the men looking for land were not impressed with what they saw. They wanted the place upon which the alfalfa was waving, and through which the creek was murmuring to the sea, so they will now take out a surveyor and see what the matter is. The trouble lies it is said, in the inaccuracy of the map, which places the creek across the wrong section.

NEWS OF ATHENA.

Heaviest Snowfall of Season March 25—Rebekah Lodge Has 125 Members—Several Quite Severe Cases of Illness—Death From Diphtheria—Excellent Lecture by Mrs. Himes. Athena, March 26.—The firemen's ball that was given at the Athena opera house, was a perfect success in every way. Music was furnished by Johnston's orchestra. This ball was largely attended by people from Adams and Weston, and the surrounding country. The committee on reception were Austin Foss, C. O. Henry, Charles Gay. The floor managers were Clark Nelson, Cliff Overturn, Clarence Knight, Harvey Richardson.

Miss M. L. Watts of this city, was on the list with the sick this week. Mrs. John Gross of Walla Walla, is in Athena visiting friends. Miss Milne Thayer has been sick at her home with tonsillitis, but is now improving very rapidly.

Most of the people are a little scared to see winter when we should have spring. Last evening snow fell six or eight inches deep, the heaviest we have had this season. The Mizouette Rebekah No. 86, of Wild Horse, initiated four candidates Tuesday, March 22. This lodge has about 125 members in good standing.

Miss Mae Gross is sick this week with a severe attack of tonsillitis. Mrs. W. H. Reeder spent last week in Spokane visiting relatives. Dr. W. H. Drake of Seattle, occupied the pulpit at M. E. church Sunday. A large audience was present. The lecture given Tuesday by Mrs. Minnie Himes, the state organizer for the Christian Women's Board of Missions, at the Christian church, was excellent. Several new members joined the society.

Rev. Jenkins and daughter, Lucy, spent Tuesday in Pendleton, where Mr. Jenkins delivered a lecture. The said intelligence has reached Mrs. Charley Smith that her oldest daughter, Mrs. Florence King's little boy, recently died with diphtheria. Another one of the family has the dread disease. They live in Ohio, Oregon.

ECHO NEWS NOTES.

No City Indebtedness—C. S. Mudge, O. R. & N. Agent, Resigns to Work for C. H. Miller. Echo, March 28.—The city starts out with no debts other than those incurred by the city election and will have the \$600 from the one liquor license to start with.

The old school house will be sold in Echo on April 2. It is expected that there will be spirited bidding, but the chances are that the city will buy at least a part of it for a city hall.

T. C. Benson on Wednesday shipped to the Union Meat Company of Portland, a carload of beef steers, which he bought from Walden Ray. This shipment made an even hundred carloads of cattle Mr. Benson alone has shipped from Echo this season.

C. S. Mudge, who has been station agent at Echo since July, 1902, and who also worked for the O. R. & N. two years at Baker City, has sent in his resignation to take effect April 1. Mr. Mudge quits the railroad to accept a better position with C. H. Miller, the merchant.

Wheat Lands. City Property.

We have some propositions in real estate which are worth your time to investigate. Come in and talk them over with us.

E. T. WADE & SON, Office in E. O. Building, Phone Black, 1111. P. O. Box 324.

Stock Ranches. Mining Stocks.

BREVITIES.

Bur Johnson of Helix, was a Pendleton visitor today.

Frank Stanton of Helix, was in the city today for a short time.

H. McBride, of Weston, is in the city for a short visit on business.

Dr. and Mrs. Braden of Walsburg, visited with Pendleton friends today.

H. C. Adams, of Weston, was the guest of friends in the city on Sunday.

D. B. Richards, a prominent citizen of Helix, was a business visitor in the city today.

C. A. Cooper, a well known resident of Juniper, spent today in the city on business.

Chris Jensen, a well known resident of Prairie City, was the guest of friends in Pendleton today.

George W. Hunt, of Portland, is in the city for a short visit in the interest of his extensive farm at Foster.

Antone Nolte left this morning for a few days' visit to his ranch where he will look after fences and brand calves.

M. M. Mills, one of the stock and ranchmen of Juniper, was a business visitor in the city on Saturday and Sunday.

William Bollons, general roadmaster of the O. R. & N., has been out for several days.

Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Stuart returned to their home at Milton today, after visit to Mrs. Stuart's parents, Rev. and Mrs. J. Edwards.

J. J. Stubblefield visited his home at Birch creek yesterday. He expects to seed a portion of a 40-acre tract to alfalfa this spring.

Miss Golden, the primary teacher at the Umatilla agency school, is quite ill with an aggravated sore throat combined with the grip.

Dr. C. J. Smith was a business visitor in Umatilla this morning, having been called there by a case of sickness.

Mrs. G. A. Hartman and daughter, Miss Jessie Hartman, returned this morning from a visit with friends in Portland, where they have been for the past week.

John Gagen of Sumpter, is a Pendleton visitor for a short time on business. Mr. Gagen will locate here a short time if he can find a location.

UMATILLA COUNTY PIONEER.

R. L. Dashiell Here on a Visit After an Absence of 32 Years.

R. L. Dashiell, one of the first settlers of Umatilla county, is in the city on a brief visit, on his way to Dallas, Or., where his children have been attending school, to Stephens county, Washington, his home.

Mr. Dashiell came from Iowa to Umatilla county in 1860 and took up the Jacob Frazer place, on Birch creek, that year, being the first white man to occupy the place. He owned it until 1872, when he sold it to Mr. Frazer and moved to Spokane, where he was engaged in the survey of the Northern Pacific, composed of a few log huts. Since that time he has resided in different parts of Washington, principally at Walsburg, until he last few years, during which time he has made his home in Stephens county on the upper Columbia.

Mr. Dashiell tells many interesting and thrilling stories of the early days of this country. He remembers very distinctly that he and a great many of his neighbors lived on wheat, ground in coffee mills, during the winter of 1862, owing to the scarcity of provisions, which were imported from The Dalles and Walla Walla.

His brother, F. A. Dashiell, who represented Umatilla county in the legislature in 1870, died in Spokane about a year ago.

Mr. Dashiell says that in coming to this country, he and his party met Major Reno, with a company of United States troops from Walla Walla, and the major discouraged the emigrants by saying that all the good land was already taken in Umatilla county, and that it would never be anything but a stock country, anyway.

DIVORCE CASE DISMISSED.

Parrish Family Are Denied the Freedom of Single Blessedness by Judge Ellis.

Judge W. R. Ellis has settled the divorce case of Della Parrish vs. Bruce Parrish for a time at least by dismissing it. This is the third divorce case that has been dismissed in this county for a number of years, and it is only in exceptional cases that the court will refuse to part the mated.

The court held that the defendant had done none of the things alleged by the plaintiff. He had not broken the rib of the plaintiff because the rib was broken before the marriage; he did not curse or excommunicate when both of them practiced up a little on their vocabulary. He provided for her as her station demanded, furnished medicine and doctors for her when she was sick, and was whiter than when she was painted in general. The court also held that both of the parties were about as a standard in the matter of temper and therefore the court thought that he was not justified in separating them. He therefore dismissed the suit.

BEST WATER IN YEARS.

Butter Creek is Full to the Brim and Overflowing Onto the Idle Land.

CHANGES AT THE INDIAN SCHOOL

MRS. OLIVE S. RISING WILL BE THE NEW MATRON.

Institution Will Be Under the Personal Direction of John H. Wilson. Formerly of the Chemawa School—Miss Spear Has Resigned and Goes to Carlisle—Agent Wilkinson Will Perform the Duties of Assistant Superintendent.

Mrs. Olive S. Rising has been appointed to the position of matron at the Umatilla agency, and has arrived to take charge of her work. Mrs. Rising has been in the Indian service for several years, and comes to the school from the central part of Illinois, where she occupied a prominent position in a government school.

John H. Wilson, for some time a teacher in the Chemawa Indian school, has also been transferred to this school and will have charge of it in the future. Mr. Wilson has been in the employ of the government for several years and is recognized as a very successful teacher among the pupils of the school.

The position of assistant superintendent, formerly held by Miss Gathier, who is now in the East on sick leave, will be abolished on the first of June, and in the future the agent at the reservation will attend to the duties of that office.

FARMED MARSHES.

Fred Nodine, Pioneer Cattleman, Converted a Worthless Marsh Near Hot Lake into a Fertile Tract of Wheat Land—Over 5,000 Acres Reclaimed by Perennial Drainage—Once a Famous Winter Range of Grand Ronde Valley.

The waste land of Eastern Oregon has not been reclaimed by irrigation alone.

In Grand Ronde valley, in the vicinity of the Hot Lake a large tract of the best wheat and barley land in the state has been reclaimed by drainage and cultivation. About 30 years ago, the entire area of country lying in a semi-circle around the Hot lake was a marsh, covered with high tules, so thick that cattle were forced to follow the beaten trails through the tangled mass, and so high that it was impossible to see a man on horseback, as he rode through it.

In the fall of the year, after the ranges on the outside hills were covered over with snow, thousands of head of cattle were turned into the marsh.

Agnes McCool, the administratrix of the estate of James McCool, deceased, has filed her final report, and on the order of the court April 30, was set as the time for its hearing.

Death of R. Alexander's Brother.

R. Alexander yesterday received the news of the death of his brother, S. Alexander, of Washington, D. C. Mr. Alexander had been in the business of real estate in Washington for over 20 years, and was well known in business circles in that place. Some three weeks ago he had undergone an operation for cancer of the bone, it being necessary for him to have a leg amputated. The patient was 56 years of age, and the shock was so great that the death resulted.

Agnes McCool, the administratrix of the estate of James McCool, deceased, has filed her final report, and on the order of the court April 30, was set as the time for its hearing.

SEED POTATOES GO SOUTH.

Northern Grown Spuds Find Ready Market Now.

Seed potatoes are being shipped from Walla Walla to the southern states in carload lots, and the demand is strong with prices considerably higher than they have been heretofore, and nearly double the figure a year ago.

Each year potatoes are shipped from the Northwest to southern points, but last year the crop there was very small and an extra strong demand is being made for the northern grown seed. Southern shippers prefer the foreign grown for planting and always buy them in preference to seed grown in the south.

Extent and Cost of OREGON'S IRRIGATED AREA

The census bureau has sent out the following interesting statistics concerning irrigation in Oregon. The facts are authentic and are of vital interest to those interested in irrigation. The report says:

In 1902 the number of farms reported was 5,133, with an irrigated area of 439,841 acres, an increase since 1899 of 51,671 acres, or 12.3 per cent for the three years. The per cent of increase for the year from 1899 to 1899 was 11.2. In 1902, 2,555 irrigating systems were in operation, representing a total construction cost of \$2,085,000, an average of \$818 per system and \$4.75 per irrigated acre. The total length of main canals and ditches was 3,633 miles, an average of 1.4 miles per system. The increase in cost since 1899 is \$245,852, or 12.3 per cent.

The aggregate number of acres irrigated by the 2,517 systems receiving water from streams was 425,925, belonging to 4,978 farms. The average cost per acre was \$4.81. The 114 systems supplied with water from springs irrigated 10,759 acres on 131 farms, the average cost per acre being \$2.13. Twenty-four well systems irrigated 297 acres, representing 24 farms, at an average cost per acre of \$15.27.

The stream systems cost, initially \$2,062,188 for the 3,604 miles of main canals and ditches and the necessary structures and headgates. The cost of the spring systems was \$22,985 and the length of main ditches was 19 miles. The construction cost of the well systems was \$4,536.

Snake River drainage Basin.

This river, the largest tributary of the Columbia, rises in Yellowstone National Park, crosses Southern Idaho, and forms the northern half of the eastern boundary of Oregon. Along this part of its course the Snake flows through deep canyons, rendering irrigation therefrom almost impossible.

In 1902, this portion of the Snake river and its Oregon tributaries and the springs and wells within the drainage basin irrigated 167,790 acres belonging to 2,064 farms, at an average cost per acre of \$5.79. There were 737 systems with 1,388 miles of main canals and ditches. The total first cost of construction was \$971,745. Two systems, located near Ontario, received water directly from the main stream and irrigated 415 acres representing 22 farms, at an average cost per acre of \$5.52. The total cost of constructing the 13 miles of canals and ditches, dams, headgates, flumes, etc., was \$15,154.14.

In 1902, Powder and Malheur rivers, the principal tributaries of the Snake in Oregon, with their affluents, irrigated more acres than all the other Snake river tributaries in Oregon.

Powder river and tributaries supplied water to 183 systems, which irrigated 58,428 acres belonging to 606 farms.

The necessary main canals and ditches, 412 miles in length, together with dams, head gates, etc., cost \$268,101, an average first cost per acre of \$4.58.

the tules to winter, and right well did they fare because of the rich growth of the grass found all through the marshes.

Finally Fred Nodine, one of the most enterprising and farmers of Union, conceived the idea of farming the tules, and began a system of drainage, after completing title to the land under the swamp land act, and by degrees reclaimed from 5,000 to 6,000 acres of it and it is now the most productive portion of the valley.

After the O. R. & N. was built through the valley, fires occasionally raged in these tule swamps, and the roots were so thick that the ground in which the tules were would burn for months, following enormous fires all over the surface of the country.

As the cultivation proceeded and the land was reclaimed farther and farther along the way, the danger of fire was reduced, but at first the dense grass and tangled mass of stalks, leaves and heads of the tules made the entire country combustible in the fall of the year.

In the spring of the year the entire bottom would be covered over with water and it was necessary to drive stock out of the tule marshes before the spring thaw, and many poor cattle were lost by being mired in the soft places leading through the marshy bottoms.

People said the marsh could not be reclaimed, and many of the practical farmers of the community laughed at Nodine, when he began ditching to drain off the water. But he persisted in his plans, and year by year reclaimed the entire body of land which had been considered worthless except for pasture.

ADMINISTRATRIX APPOINTED.

She Will Handle the Estate of John Southwell, Deceased.

Amanda Southwell has filed a petition in the probate court asking that she be appointed administratrix of the estate of John Southwell, who died February 18, 1904.

There was no will, and the estate consists of real estate to the value of \$6,000, 100 head of cattle valued at \$1,500, 12 head of horses at \$350, and farming implements to the value of \$150. The petition was granted, and letters will issue on the filing of a bond in the sum of \$5,200.

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Uhnhart-Moon.

Mrs. Dora E. Uhnhart and George A. Moon were married on Saturday evening at 8 o'clock at the Methodist church, by Rev. Robert Warner. Both of the parties are residents of this city and will make their home on Union street.

Good breeding is a letter of credit all over the world.

Columbia River Drainage Basin.

This drainage basin comprises that portion of Oregon drained by the Columbia river and its tributaries below the mouth of the Snake. The main stream is not utilized to any great extent because of its slight fall and the precipitous nature of its banks.

There were, in 1902, seven systems supplied from a main stream, water being taken from the mouth of the main stream, and 198 acres belonging to seven farms were thus irrigated at an average cost per acre of \$17.68. The length of main canals and ditches was five miles, and the total cost of construction, \$4,590.

Platte drainage basin water was supplied through 960 systems to 64,355 acres, representing 1,731 farms, at an average cost per acre of \$5.25. The total cost of constructing the 1,019 miles of main canals and ditches and the necessary dams, gates, reservoirs, etc., was \$410,925.

So far as irrigation is concerned, John Day and Deschutes rivers are the largest and most important of the tributaries, and supplied water to 48,712 acres out of a total irrigated area of 64,355 for the entire basin. The former has 15,930 acres, and the western slope of the Blue mountains between the western spur of these mountains on the north and Strawberry mountains on the south.

The upper course is westward, but midway it turns rather abruptly to the north and enters the Columbia just above John Day. The latter has its headwaters on the eastern slope of the Cascade mountains, near Diamond Peak and Mount Thielsen, flows northward with slight deviation to the east and enters the Columbia a few miles below Deschutes. Its principal tributary, Crocker river, rises near the center of Eastern Oregon, and flows westward and northward to its confluence with the main stream.

In 1902, John Day river and tributaries irrigated 27,064 acres, representing 554 farms at an average cost per acre of \$4.25. There were 281 systems having 402 miles of main canals and ditches, and the total cost was \$1,150,000.

One hundred and ninety systems, supplied with water from the Deschutes river and tributaries, irrigated 21,108 acres on 294 farms. The total first cost of construction was \$138,755, an average of \$6.57 per irrigated acre. The entire length of main canals and ditches was 351 miles.

Hood river and tributaries irrigated 2,847 acres. Walla Walla tributaries, 3,321; Umatilla and tributaries, 4,485; and Willow creek and tributaries, 3,013.

Fifty-nine systems, with 17 miles of main canals and ditches, diverted water from the Willamette river and tributaries and irrigated 448 acres in holdings averaging 6.6 acres, largely in gardens and orchards. The total first cost of construction was \$3,240, an average of \$7.23 per irrigated acre.

WANT A CANNERY

FREEWATER PEOPLE OFFER INDUCEMENTS TO CAPITAL.

A Block of Ground Will Be Given to the Right People — Fruit District of Freewater and Milton Would Supply Large Cannery — Many More Farmers Would Raise Fruit if Cannery Were Established to Use It.

W. L. Shaw, of Hudson Bay, was in the city today in the interest of a cannery plant which the people of Freewater hope to establish this season.

Freewater is very anxious to have a cannery start there, to use up the surplus fruit of that rich fruit district, and will offer every inducement to a company that will take the matter in hand.

A suitable block of ground will be given as a donation, to induce the establishment of the cannery and every assistance will be rendered to insure a first-class institution of this kind.

Mr. Shaw says the district furnished enough fruit to keep a large cannery working constantly during the fruit season, and as it is now, much of the fruit crop is wasted because of the long distance to market and the cost of handling the fruit, just when it should be sent out.

Vegetables and fruits of all kinds grow in abundance on the irrigated land of the Freewater district and a cannery would induce more of the farmers to plant berries and fruit, to supply such an establishment at home.

The people of that district invite capitalists to investigate the proposition, and promise every inducement within reason, to secure a modern cannery in time to handle this season's crop.

PETITION IN PROBATE COURT.

N. A. Davis Would Be Administrator of "Hermitt" French's Estate.

N. A. Davis has filed a petition in the probate court asking that he be appointed administrator of the estate of DeWitt C. French, ("Hermitt" French), who died February 15, 1904. The estate consists of real estate valued at \$800 and cash in the Walla Walla bank amounting to \$350. The deceased left no will and his heirs consist of four sisters, Belle Dyer, Wellsville, N. Y.; Harriet M. Hale, Brigham, N. Y.; Katie M. Case, Rochester, N. Y.; and Clara C. Wood, of Seattle. The petition was granted on the filing of a bond in the sum of \$1,000.

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WHITE WAISTING WASH FABRICS

Mercerized lace stripes, plain oxford, plain mercerized, bleached and brown linen, polka dots and striped Batiste.

At 50c and 65c PER YARD WOOL FABRICS

VOILES—38-Inch wide, in black, Royal blue, brown, slate and champagne shades.

ETAMINES—40 inches wide, in black, red, brown, blue and champagne shades.

MEL