

RIVERS AND HARBORS.

The Florence West says the government force on the jetty works at the mouth of the Siuslaw, are dropping 12-ton pebbles into Old Ocean's bosom along the line of the jetty there, and thinks that the boisterous waves will beat in vain against those pebbles for centuries before they can move them. In the meantime Uncle Sam can have a few more of those 12-ton pebbles dumped upon those there now, and thus baffle Old Ocean's mighty powers. The government, through the energetic labors of a live and vigilant congressman, will doubtless make a good harbor and safe bar at the mouth of the Siuslaw, as well as at Yaquina, Coos Bay, Port Orford and of the mighty Columbia. It needs not the spirit of prophecy to look down the vista of a few coming years to see the commercial prominence the several ports along our coast will maintain, and of the immense wealth of a foreign and domestic commerce with Oregon. All that is needed to secure this anticipated grandeur for Oregon is to keep active, energetic, watchful and experienced men in congress. Such Oregon has now, and if she will study her interest she will keep them there so long as they continue to look out for her interest and press her claims with statesmanlike ability. The people of the state should look to their own interest. They ought not to care a fig for the individual aspirant for the place.

A change for the purpose of giving Tom, Dick or Harry a pull at the public test should cut no figure. It is their own interest they should look to, and return to congress a man who has been tried and not found wanting. The plaindealer is not in favor of Mr. Hermann because it is Hermann, but because Hermann fills the bill. He has been tried, and, so far, comes up to the requirements.

Mr. Hermann will doubtless be placed at the head of the committee of rivers and harbors next session, by and through the unwritten law of administrative policy, where, as chairman of that committee, he will be able to accomplish more than any new man could. It would be unwise to swap horses in the middle of the stream we are now crossing.

THAT BEAVER MONEY.

In an editorial in the Oregonian of September 17th, we notice reference is made to the "Beaver" money coined in the early years in Oregon. We have this to say. Daniel H. Lowndale coined the first five dollar piece that was ever coined in Oregon, and it was coined in the winter of 1849 from gold just brought from California by the writer late in the fall of 1848. We think the dies from which the coin was cast was made by Mr. Wallace of Oregon City. The coin was cast in the cellar of the old storehouse of Pettigrove, and we were at the time pretty well conversant with all the operations attending its coinage. Mr. Pettigrove had sold his interest in Portland to D. H. Lowndale, and we spent many weeks with him in discussing the relative effects of the discovery of gold on the business interests of Oregon. Mr. Lowndale was cogitating for a considerable time over the question of the coinage of the gold, but this is certain, that some time in January, 1849, he coined a five dollar piece, and the hand that writes these notes had that five dollar piece laid in its palm in 1849. Lowndale exercised much secrecy relative to its coinage, but there was no necessity for secrecy for the coin was of pure gold, without any alloy.

THE FAIR.

Next Tuesday the Second Southern District Agricultural Association begins its fourth annual exhibit. The association heretofore has been unfortunate. An inclement state of the weather for three successive years prevented a good and full exhibit and the attendance was light and the receipts were small, while the expense was large. As a consequence the association is in a crippled condition, financially. In view of this fact, and the fact also, that a fair is one of the best means of general improvement and development of a county, we appeal to the generosity, liberality, and, we might add, patriotism of the citizens all over the county to give the association all the aid in their power at the approaching exhibit. Come, every mother's son of you, and bring your mother with you. Let every one lay by for four or five days and take a respite from toils on the farm and in workshop and kitchen. Come and see the

luscious fruits, the fine stock, the attractive races, the pretty women on wheels, and hear the best band in Oregon discourse its excellent music. Yes, come one and all and have a grand good time, and go home with a consciousness that you have given your mite for the up-building of this worthy institution of "grand old Douglas."

When the Grand Army of the Republic meets in a Southern city, and a Southern orator who fought in the Confederate ranks rises to say that "the monstrosity (slavery), out of which came the folly of secession, out of the way, and the nation having actually had its new birth of freedom, there is nothing now but ignorance and prejudice to prevent the American in Minnesota from taking the hand of the American in Georgia and calling him brother," every American who remembers the past struggle can answer that he has lived to see and hear great things.—Oregonian.

The county court is still wrestling with the tax roll. Equalization is a knotty question that tries the unknown qualities of the board. It is more difficult than the twelve labors of Hercules. Hercules could kill the Lernaean hydra monster, tame the Nemean lion and cleanse the Aegean stables, but he never undertook to equalize a tax roll.

The storm of the last three days has spent its fury. Old Plinius has emptied his last cup, cut off, a la Roseburg Water Company, his hydrants, and Old Sol sends down his cheerful beams and dame Nature's face puts on a pleasant and bewitching smile again.

The Riddle Enterprise is of the opinion that music from the raw material in the cat is not as agreeable as the manufactured article; that is the twang of a guitar or banjo string is more pleasant to the ear than the voice of a tom-cat at midnight.

Douglas county has 5,781 males and 5,100 females; 728 foreign born males and 255 females. Total population of the county by the census of 1890 was 11,864; of the state 325,779. The population of 1880 was 138,909.

TSILCOOS NOTES.

Showery and cool with just a little frost for a variation.

Several bears have been killed within the last month.

Trout fishing in Fiddle creek is fair. A few one pounders for breakfast are good for the health.

Our cattle are in fine condition. The lake borders, or marshes, furnish fine feed for stock.

Much butter of fine quality is produced by our people. At present prices the business is not very remunerative. We need an open canal between Tenmile and Fivemile lakes. This scheme would enable our farmers to deliver milk or cream to the creamery at Gardiner and put us on a cash basis. The canal must be cut. It would be less than one-half mile in length. Our business should all go to Gardiner.

By the way, Gardiner is the gem town between Coos Bay and Yaquina. It is a fact that the business men of this place will pay cash for labor or for anything else needed by them in their business. There are towns over this way where it breaks the hearts of their alleged business men to part with a dollar for anything else than store goods to be sold at a handsome profit. You sometimes hear murmurings against the Gardiner

combination but upon investigation you will find the croaker to be the man at fault. Gardiner pays better wages and better prices generally for forest and farm products than any other place within 100 miles and will pay coin, silver and gold, as you prefer. Her business men are not doing business for health's sake exactly, but they are willing that others shall live as well as they. We want to reach Gardiner with our milk. We must get there or throw up the sponge unless a creamery is established on the shore of our placid (when the wind does not blow) lake.

What a royal reception we gave to Binger Hermann at Florence! Everybody, or nearly everybody, went. Binger's fence's are high, strong and tight. There is no man in the state who can get over the fence here.

SCOTT MORRIS.

THE PORTLAND MARKET.

PORTLAND, Sept. 17.—The following prices were current in the produce markets yesterday:

Flour—\$2.85 @ \$2.95 per barrel.
Oats—Good white are quoted weak at 27@28c per bushel; milling, 28@30c; gray, 25@26c.

Hay—Overstocked; timothy, \$9@9.50 per ton; cheat, 4.50@5; cloyer. No demand.
Barley—Feed barley, 62½@65c per central; brewing, 80@85, according to quality; chop, \$16 per ton.

Potatoes—New Oregon 35@55 per sack.
Butter—Firm; fancy creamery, 12½@14c per pound; fancy dairy, 10@12½c; fair to good, 8½@10c; common, 6½@7c.

Onions—New California, \$1.25@1.50 per ctn.
Poultry—Chickens, old, \$3@3.25 per dozen; young, \$1.25@2.50 per dozen; ducks, \$2.50@3; geese, \$4@6; turkeys, live, 10c per pound; dressed, no demand.

Eggs—Oregon, 14c per dozen.
Cheese—Oregon, full cream, 10@11c per pound; half cream, 7@9c; skim, 4@5c.

Oregon vegetables—Cabbage, 1 @1¼c per pound; radishes, 10c per dozen bunches; green onions, 10c per dozen; Oregon wax beans, 2@3½c; cucumbers, 75c@1 per box; cauliflower, \$1 per doz.

Fresh fruit—Apples, 50c@62c per box; cherries, 50@60c; Oregon, \$1 per box; prunes, 40@50c; peaches, \$40@60.

Berries—Blackberries, 2@3c per pound; raspberries, \$1.50 per crate.
Wool—Valley, 11@13c, according to quality; Eastern Oregon, 8@11c.

Provisions—Oregon: Smoked hams, 11½c per pound.

THE MEAT MARKET.

Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$3.50@3.75; light and feeders, \$3.25@3.50; dressed, 4½c per pound.

Veal—Gross, small, 5@6c; large, 3 @4c per pound.
Beef—Gross, top steers, \$2.50@3; fair to good steers, \$2.50@2.60; cows, \$2.25@2.50; dressed beef, 4@5½c.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers, \$1.75@2; ewes, \$1.75; dressed mutton, 4c.

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