

The Plaindealer.

Society Meetings.

B. F. O. ELKS, ROSEBURG LODGE, NO. 28, hold their regular communications at the I. O. O. F. hall on second and fourth Thursdays of each month. All members requested to attend regularly, and all visiting brothers cordially invited to attend.
CHAS. L. HADLEY, E. R. IRRA B. RIDDLE, Secretary.

DOUGLAS COUNCIL, NO. 21 J. O. U. C. A. M. meets every Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock in the Old Masonic Hall. Visiting brothers are cordially invited to attend.
C. B. CARSON, Councilor.
Geo. W. PERRY, Recording Secretary.

LAUREL LODGE, A. F. & A. M., REGULAR meetings the 2d and 4th Wednesdays in each month.
FREE JOHNSON, W. M.
S. T. JEWETT, Sec'y.

PHILANTHROPIC LODGE, NO. 21 J. O. U. C. A. M. meets Saturday evening of each week at their hall in Old Masonic Temple at Roseburg. Members of the order in good standing are invited to attend.
J. W. STRANGE, N. G.
S. T. JEWETT, Sec'y.

ROSEBURG LODGE, NO. 16, A. O. U. W. meets the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 7:30 p. m. at Old Masonic Hall. Members of the order in good standing are invited to attend.

RENO POST, NO. 29, G. A. R., MEETS THE first and third Thursdays of each month at 7 p. m.

WOMEN'S RELIEF CORPS, NO. 10, MEETS first and third Fridays in each month.

ROSEBURG CHAPTER, NO. 8, O. E. S., MEETS the first and third Thursdays of each month.
MOLLIE SHAMBRON, W. M.
REGINA RAST, Sec'y.

ROSEBURG DIVISION NO. 47, D. O. F. I. E. meets every second and fourth Saturdays.

ALPHA LODGE, NO. 47, K. O. F., MEETS every Wednesday evening at Old Masonic Hall. Visiting Knights in good standing cordially invited to attend.

Professional Cards.

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& Wilson Block, ROSEBURG, OR.

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ALEXANDER & STRONG.

STATE OR CHURCH.

Title to Vast Property in New Possessions Not Clear.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—At a meeting of the National Christian Citizenship convention, a letter was read from William Henry Roberts, a prominent Presbyterian and secretary of the Alliance of Reformed Churches, on the subject of church property in our newly acquired possessions. The letter says in part: "In all these territories, acquired as a result of the war with Spain, there are large church properties which have been under the control hitherto of the Roman Catholic church as the established church of Spain and her colonies. These church properties are claimed by the Roman Catholic authorities, but to a large extent with no show of right. These properties are properties given by will or direct personal donation under the control of Roman Catholic church authorities in Porto Rico and the Philippines, but in addition to such properties there are other properties, especially church edifices, which were paid for out of the public funds and maintained at the expense of the Spanish governments. The latter properties are not the properties of the church, but of the people.

"This is the fact in all countries where there are established churches. Such churches in Spain, France, England and Germany are branches of the state, and their edifices are erected and expense paid, the salaries of bishops and priests included, out of the public taxes. It was because of this fact that when the South American republics became independent of Spain the new rulers took possession of a very considerable part of the church property. They took the ground that the ownership of the property was in the state and not in the church. The same ground was taken in England at the time of the reformation.

"Westminster Abbey, London, was once a Roman Catholic place of worship and is now a Protestant Episcopal church, because the structure was paid for by the money of the English nation, and the ownership was and is in the hands of the English people.

"The ecclesiastical situation therefore as it lies in many minds, is this: "The church property in Porto Rico and the Philippines being to a large extent the property of the state, is not rightfully the property of the Roman Catholic church. The United States government, therefore should take possession of all church property, should carefully determine what money of the property actually belongs to the Roman Catholic church as such, and retain the remainder under its own control for the benefit of the people of the new territories.

"I would not advocate that the United States government should take possession of church property in the new territories, selling the same at public sale and placing the money in its own treasury; but I do say that the people of this new territory in each of their cities and towns should have an opportunity to determine what use should be made of these church edifices. They were built by money, forced from them by oppressive methods of the Spanish government and they are morally, and they think legally, the property of the inhabitants of these territories. Let there be a vote for instance, in each of the towns and parishes of Porto Rico, as to the disposal of the church edifices.

Gold in Oregon.

From the Elbe river opposite the McKenzie part of the Cascade range in Oregon, I have found gold mining being done all along on what seems to be a continuous mineral belt, extending to the Gulf of California.

From the Gulf or south it seems to change to silver. On top of the Cascade on the McKenzie part there is an immense lava bed three miles across it. Signs of other craters, chimneys and blowouts are occasionally seen on this extensive belt varying somewhat in distance from the ocean.

Abrupt changes of formation in different places show that at some former period of time, there has been great upheavals changing the surface formation of the earth, and in some places to considerable depth. No doubt some quartz leads have been covered up. Others by disintegration of rock by atmospheric influence, that has been for ages washing down causing what is called blind leads which can only be traced by occasional bits of float or quartz or associated country rocks.

The disintegration process has also worn off some shallow leads thus accounting for some of the placers where no quartz leads are found. In several of the mining states where I have assisted in the construction of quartz mills I have in each instance, put in a few months inspecting and studying the geological and mineral formation of the country. Each locality has its own class of quartz and associated rocks and formation. From all indications, when prospecting can be done on a thorough scale by practical and well informed prospectors, many good mines will yet be found in Oregon.

I was always looking for a bonanza, I have let them go to parties with plenty of patience, time and money to develop a low grade mine. Some of them have proved to be paying mines.

If parties interested in this line of business will organize a prospecting and mining company, strong enough to do thorough work, I will put my time and experience against capital.

Life is too short to camp out and climb mountains for a week and half-way trial. By an early start in the spring there would be a fair show of accomplishing something before fall. Prospecting is just as legitimate business as fruit raising, but to go into either with a hope of success, one should have some knowledge of the business. I will be glad to correspond with any who have faith in Oregon's mineral possibilities.

Address me at Myrtle Creek or call on me at Mr. C. Weavers two miles south of town.

WILSON HILDETHI.
News Notes

"The largest volume of business ever recorded" is mentioned in the message as a proof of prosperity. That this should come to pass in a year of war is a remarkable circumstance.

A bitter partisan has figured it out that a change of 300 votes would have given the democrats the next congress. If the people could have realized this when they voted the republicans would have been much greater.

Col. Bryan claims to be restrained by military environment from giving free expression to his throbbing sentiments. If the war department understands its business, the 21 Nebraska will not be mustered out for some time yet.

In pursuance to the czar's peace plans Russia is going to turn the harbor of Libau, on the Baltic near Riga, into a first-class naval station and fortress. The port will be closed to merchantmen and foreigners, for whom the harbor of Windau is now being fitted up.

It is not often that we have a chance to repay Greece for the debt we owe to Aeschonius, Sophocles, Euripides, et al., but "Charlie's Aunt" has just been translated for the benefit of the Athenian public, which perhaps is getting a little tired of Prometheus, Oedipus Tyrannus, The Wasp, Antigone, etc.

One of the high officials of the French Foreign Office ventures the suggestion that the American peace commissioners lack "diplomatic manners." This may or may not be true, but there is something about the general style of Judge Day, the fit of his clothes or the cut of his hair, that seems to win admiration here at home.

The Thirteen Hussars of England have just lost their "old soldier" probably the oldest soldier in the British army—"Sergeant Major Trump, who died exactly 49 years to the day after enlistment. He was 28 years of age when he enlisted as a saddler, and therefore would be 77 years old. He was in active service to the end.

Less opposition to the peace treaty has been developed in Madrid than was generally anticipated. Two weeks ago, when the terms of the treaty were first indicated, a revolution was threatened in all parts of Spain, but up to the present time it has not assumed a violent form. The truth is, the Spaniards have had such poor success in fighting outsiders that they were afraid to tackle each other.

The Retreat From Moscow.

It was on November 25, at about 7 o'clock in the morning, when we saw the head of the column. The first we saw were generals, a few of whom were on horseback, but the majority on foot. The latter painfully dragged themselves along, almost all having their feet frozen and bound up in rags and pieces of sheepskin and dying of hunger. We then saw what was left of the cavalry of the guard. The emperor came next on foot, with a stick in his hand. He was muffled up in a large capote lined with fur and wore on his head an amaranthine velvet cap, edged with black foxskin. On his right marched, also on foot, King Murat; on his left, Prince Eugene, viceroy of Italy; then Marshals Berthier, Prince of Neuchatel; Ney, Mortier, Davout and other marshals and generals whose corps had been partly destroyed.

OLDEST LIVING MAN.

He is a Hungarian and Has Been on Earth 111 Years.

The oldest man in the world lives in Vienna. He is 111 years old, but is hale and hearty. By no means decrepit, he dispenses the hospitality of his comfortable home with the pleasant, cheery manner of an Old-World gentleman.

Think what it means to be 111 years old! It means that 1787 was the year of his birth. At 6 his childish ears drank in fearful stories about Louis XVI having his head chopped off. At 18 he was stirred by the battle of Trafalgar.

Well does he remember when Queen Victoria ascended the throne, he was then 10 years old. He had almost reached 60 years when the revolution changed the face of his Fatherland. Dynasties have risen and been overthrown, science has transformed the world, but here is the old man, still alert and interested. He is a living history of the greatest epoch the world has ever known.

His wife is 76, but she is hale and sprightly, and coddles the old gentleman to his heart's content.

Of Jewish faith he is a regular attendant at daily prayers. He spends his days chatting with his friends and reading, frequently dropping into a nap. On being asked how he lived in his young days he replied: "I worked hard and felt hungry after my labor. I always had two pounds of meat at a meal and a pint of light Hungarian wine. Twice in my life I was drunk, and I was so dreadfully ill afterward that it was no task to keep sober. I've always liked girls, I liked them when I was young and when I was middle-aged, and I like them still, now that I am old. All the mischief that I was ever in had a pretty girl at the bottom of it.

"What do I think is the cause of my happy old age? Oh, I know exactly. I never worried and I never grieved. I worked until weary, and then slept in unbroken rest until it was time to work again. It is those who sit brooding over misfortunes who grow old before their time. A whole night's sorrowing has never put a copper in any man's pocket or made a misfortune lighter to bear."

Looking Glass Items.

James Denning has gone to Coos county.

J. Newland visited Roseburg on Sunday last.

J. H. Brown and family of Flournoy valley attended church here last Sunday.

Henry Bushnell of Olalla was with us on Tuesday.

B. F. Goodman of Flournoy valley was here on business Monday.

Miss Eva Howard of Ten Mile entered our school Monday, as the school was closed at that place.

Hiram Thrush of Camas Valley passed through here the first of the week.

Rev. Pope delivered an interesting discourse to a large congregation here Sunday.

George Marsh has commenced plowing his prune orchard. He is having some grubbing done on one of his places. His prune trees have made a good growth this year.

Odds and Ends.

We now have chinaware, wheels, harness, carriages, codless milk, henless eggs and brainless dudes; but alas! no smokeless cigarettes.—Ex.

Actors seem to think, says the Growler, that when a man opens a letter or telegram in the parlor he always throws the envelope on the floor.

In Queen Elizabeth's reign the expenses of the British navy were about \$30,000 a year, a contrast to the present huge sum of \$125,000,000 spent annually on the fleet.

The reason why women cry after they have quarrelled with their husbands is because they always think of something hateful they ought to have said and left unsaid.

It is believed in Norway that wolves are frightened away by telegraph lines. On one occasion a village voted money to help in the construction of a line passing near them for this reason alone.

Ex-President Harrison's prompt decision that he is in bad health is taken by some Indiana politicians to mean full appreciation of the fact that the Hoosier legislature will soon be called upon to elect a United States senator.

Among the cities in the United States San Francisco has the least and Philadelphia the greatest debt. The debt of San Francisco is \$133,917,01, and that of Philadelphia \$56,872,795 22. In the bonded debt per capita Boston is the highest, with \$97.36, while San Francisco is the lowest, being 38 cents.

Physicians are now somewhat puzzled to determine just what is the nature of the disease that is causing so much sickness at Athens and Adams. The schools have been closed at both places, and some of the physicians give it as their opinion that the disease is diphtheria. It resembles that malady, being accompanied by sore throat, and, in one case, death has resulted.

A party of explorers from the Field Columbian museum, Chicago, headed by Professor D. G. Elliott, has just found a new species of elk in the Olympic mountains, which they have named the Roosevelt elk. They are entirely different from the elk found in the Rockies or in Alaska. Their antlers are of enormous size, several being found which measured nearly 90 inches between the outer prongs.

When the British forces were marching on Peking in 1860, after the capture of the Taku forts, one of the rivers became so swollen with the heavy rains that it was rendered impassable. Being aware that the Chinese generally order their coffins years in advance and keep them on the premises, orders were given to search all the houses of the villages and collect every coffin. With the aid of a few empty casks the soldiers constructed a pontoon bridge of coffins sufficiently strong to bear the artillery, and the river was thus passed in safety.

The value of imports into Chee Foo in 1897, specified as American, were almost 10 times greater than those specified as from Great Britain. The consul points to the interesting fact that the value of American imports into the single Chinese port of Chee Foo exceeds the entire value of our exports to any one of 14 separate countries which he names, including in the list such nations as Guatemala, Peru, Dutch East Indies, Portugal and Switzerland, and in the consul's opinion not more than 20 of the 60 political divisions of the world's commerce would show a greater value of our exports than this Chinese port of Chee Foo. He said it is also true that the value of American exports to three North China ports, Tien Tsin, New Chwang and Chee Foo, last year exceeded our combined sales in all the Central American states, while we sold more cotton goods in Chee Foo than we sold in all Europe.

CONDEMNED.

When an innocent man is condemned for any crime he doesn't lose hope. His lawyers appeal from one court to another. They are bound to save him, if he can be saved. It is the same way with a good doctor when his patient seems condemned to death by disease.

But doctors make mistakes sometimes; they lose heart too soon. After they have tried everything they know and the patient is no better, they think there is nothing more to be done. They don't always get at the root of the disease. They frequently give a patient up to die of consumption, and are afterwards surprised to see him get strong and well again.

Mrs. W. B. Dugan, of Arlington, Phelps Co., Mo., writes: "My husband took four bottles of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery when he was (as he thought) almost into consumption, and we were very thankful that such a medicine could be found. I wish all persons troubled with cough would take it. Long may the Golden Medical Discovery and 'Pavlovic' prescriptions be made. I shall always recommend and praise these medicines."

All lung and bronchial diseases are cured by Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, because it supplies the system with healthy blood. It puts the vital forces into action and fills the circulation with the life-giving red corpuscles which build up solid, muscular flesh and healthy nerve-force.

As a medical author, Dr. Pierce holds an eminent place in his profession. His great thousand-page illustrated book, "The People's Common Sense Medical Adviser" is one of the standard medical works of the English language. Nearly 700,000 copies were sold at \$1.00 each. A paper-bound copy will be sent absolutely free for the cost of mailing only, 21 cent stamps, or, cloth-bound for 50 cents. World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y.