Weekly Oregon Statesman.

SALEM, TUESDAY, DEC. 31.

THE OREGON CITY LOCKS.

We find in the Herald the following paragraph: "Governor Whiteaker and Hon. George R. Helm, appointed by Gov. Grover to examine and accept the Canal and Locks at the falls of the Willamette, under the law authorizing the construction of the work, arrived in the city last evening. We understand that they will examine the locks to-day."

The law requires the appointment of three Commissioners, but we are not informed who the third man is. The appointment as above strikes us as singular, in two respects: I. Both the commissioners named were members of the Legislature of 1870, and were both strong advocates of the bill granting the Locks Company $200,000, as against all propositions to get the work done for less money. A decent regard for appearances ought to have kept both of them off this Commission. The men who put the job and the plunder into the Company's hands ought not to be also the men to judge finally whether the job has been properly completed. II. Neither of the Commissioners are engineers or men who are by experience, competent to decide as to the sufficiency of the works. We doubt if either one of them ever examined similar works, or can now tell the names of half the parts or appliances of the Locks. This Commission to examine and accept the works is a very important one, and should have been composed of the best engineers of the State. A man may be a very sensible man, successful farmer, highly respectable gentleman and a good fiddler or lawyer, and yet be entirely unqualified to judge of such great prices of engineering as Locks and Canals. The appointment of these Commissioners certainly looks more like trifling with the interests of the State, than anything else.

THE MODOC PEACE.

The Modoc Indians do not seem to be in any immediate danger of being annihilated, or as Roaring Ralph Stackpole would put it, "teetotally chawed up and explunctified." The military authorities are still busy with "notes of preparation," but nothing more. There has been no fighting except when the Indians to relieve the tedium of inaction, come out of their fastnesses and fire upon the soldiers or a Commissary train. Within the last few days, we have heard some silly twaddle about starving the Indians out—as though the Indians, having the free range of the whole country could not provide for themselves as well as they have heretofore done it! The country is getting to be suspicious that there is either utter inefficiency in the conduct of the campaign, or that there is some sort of an understanding about the figures of the commissary and quartermaster's bills, which are to be footed by-and-bye by the State and general Governments. Which is it?

LOCAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

We have noted with pleasure, the movements in several parts of this State to form local agricultural societies. The growing sentiment both in this and foreign countries seems to be growing in favor of these local societies as against the more cumbersome, more pretentious, and less useful mammoth exhibitions, whose field is a whole State or half a dozen States. These latter are too often run by rings for one purpose or another, and for advancement of the interest of some chosen clique. The people from whom support must come are learning that they best subserve their own interests by encouraging the neighborhood and district gatherings. Let them do what they can to build up these, and there will be little occasion for anything better.

Just now, the subject of fire-proof buildings is one of almost universal interest and very general discussion. Discussing the subject, the London Engineer, a good authority, says: "The only way to construct a building which shall be as nearly fire-proof as possible is to reject iron, both cast and wrought, as a constructive material, except for doors, and to revert to the use of brick floors, supported by groined arches on brick pillars. But such buildings are at once enormously expensive, and to the last degree unhandy." It also observes that although it is easy to make a building fire-proof, it is usually impracticable to have its ordinary contents fire-proof, and this is the reason why so-called fire-proof mills and stores are so often burned down.

The Bulletin's commercial article says: A careful estimate shows that the money actually received in the State for wheat and flour sent abroad during the present year is about $1,400,000. This, in connection with estimates of those well posted in the matter, that as yet not one-half of the wheat crop has left the hands of the producer, will, when, this year's crop is fully disposed of, swell the amount of money received in exchange for grain to nearly, if not quite, $3,000,000. The result is a good one for a State as young as Oregon is in agricultural pursuits.

In 1858, says the Marysville Appeal, the Western Union Telegraph Company paid a dividend to the stockholders of four hundred per cent, and in 1863, only six years ago, paid a stock dividend of forty five per cent. Its capital stock has been watered from $376,000 to $41,000,000. In consideration of the unprofitableness of its business and its extreme poverty, Mr. Orton should present a relief bill to Congress. The Whang-doodle and its subsidized allies would undoubtedly advocate the passage of such a charitable measure.

We observe that the Democratic newspapers, generally, espouse the cause of the corporate monopolies, in the matter of the proposition to purchase and attach the telegraph lines to the Post office Department. They have a powerful dread of soulless corporations!

No Congress in many years has had so many re-elected members as the 43d, which will come in after March 4th. If experience is worth anything, the wisdom of the next Congress ought to be exceptional.

Minnie Myrtle Miller arrived at Chicago, Dec. 23d, under engagement to lecture in that city. In an interview with a reporter she stated her intention to lecture as soon as the cold weather should abate.

It appears from the Yreka Journal that the correspondent of the S. F. Chronicle has been sending to that paper, Modoc news that is entirely sensational and false.

THE AUTHORITIES DISAGREE.

The Mercury explained, once upon a time, that in all cases where the Governor had made new appointments of litigant organs, there had been a change in the proprietor of the newspaper affected or a failure on the part of the proprietor to comply with the law. The other day, the Mercury speaking of the recent devestiture of the Polk county Messenger of its litigant franchise, said that the paper had changed hands: that the original proprietor had given his personal bonds as required by law, but the new proprietor was not held by such bond, etc., hence the new appointment of a litigant organ. Now comes the Republican, the new-fledged litigant organ, and defending the Governor from a "false and foolish squib," says: "Governor Grover has not taken the "litigant franchise" from the Messenger, for the simple reason that it never acquired any "franchise" under the law." And the reason why the Messenger had not acquired any franchise, says the Republican, was because it had not complied with the law, or in other words, the proprietor had not given bonds. Really, in cases like this, where the Governor requires his organs to defend him, right or wrong, he ought to stuff them all with the same sort of gammon. They ought to agree, at least, as to the facts in a case, whatever may be their belief as to the soundness or emptiness of their master's legal opinion of the law.

IMPROVEMENT OF THE COLUMBIA.

(From the Oregonian, Dec. 30.

At present there are about twenty miners engaged at John Day Rapids on the Upper Columbia river, in blasting and grappling for the rock. Floating ice compelled a temporary suspension of operations at Umatilla Rapids and Devil's Bend. Unless the weather becomes much colder, and the ice greatly augments, work can continue at John Day Rapids, until the completion of the contract. Immediately following this, operations will be commenced with vigor at the other two points mentioned.

Kansas City has recently voted to exempt its manufacturing enterprises from local taxation. We suggest that similar action on the part of the people of Salem, would present such inducements to manufacturers to plant their establishments here, as would result in large additions to the wealth-producing property and population of the city, and thus more than compensate for the extra burden assumed by the taxpayers.

Gen. E. L. Applegate, Commissioner of Immigration, accompanied by Jacob Stitzel of Portland, started Sunday, Dec. 22d, overland to California, en route to the Eastern States. The general will devote himself while at the East to the principal object of his mission—the dissemination of information concerning Oregon. It must stand greatly to his credit that he undertakes the business at his own expense, the Legislature, having in a spirit of pettty trifling refused to provide him compensation, after giving him the commission.

The Chicago Times, which supported O'Conor in the presidential campaign, in a recent issue says: "The Democratic party organization is a dead body which nothing can bring back to seccessful life. The resurrection of genuine Democratic principles must occur under entirely new auspices, of which the played-out race of political jugglers shall not be not the engineers, or it is a resurrection that this genora ion will not witness."

The occurrence of the late fire in Portland, has revived the discussion of the question of water supply, and the proposition to invest in the Holly system seems to be gaining friends.

The Postmaster General estimates that $12,000,000 will purchase all the existing lines of telegraph in the United States. Outsiders think $20,000,000 will be required.

The bonded debt of Idaho Territory is $77,255, and her floating debt is $58,220 more.

NORTH CAROLINA.

(From the N. Y. Times.)

North Carolina appears to be in danger of speedily having no State Government, because of the reluctance of the Democratic Legislature to formally declare the result of the August election, when, as is well known, Republican State officers were chosen. The excuse is made that the returns of certain counties have not been made in accordance with law, and it so happens that the returning officials of these counties are invariably Democrats. Partisan feeling in the Southern States is allowed a latitude unknown elsewhere, but it is hardly possible that it will be permitted to perpetrate such an outrage as seems to be intended in this case. There is no pretense made that the Republican State ticket was not elected by a majority of the people, and the consummation of what we fear is the present purpose of the Legislature will be a defiance of the popular will as unparalleled as it will be inexcusable.

WE SHALL MEET AGAIN.

The following is said to be one of the most brilliant articles written by the lamented Geo. D. Prentice:

The fiat of nature is inexorable. There is no appeal for relief from the great law which doomsus to dust. We flourish and fade as the leaves of the forest, and the flours that bloom and wither in a day have no frailer hold upon life than the mightiest monarch that ever shook the earth with his footsteps. Generations of men will appear and disappear as the footsteps on the shore. Men seldom think of the great event of death until the shadows falls across their own pathway, hiding from their eyes the faces of loved ones, whose living smile was the sunlight of their existence. Death is the antagonist of life, and the cold thought of the tomb is the skeleton of all feasts. We do not want to go through the dark valley, although its dark passage may lead to Paradise; we do not want to lie down in the damp grave, even with princes as bedfellows. In the beautiful drama of "Ione," the hope of immortality uttered by the death devoted Greek, finds deep response in every thoughtful soul. When about to yield his young existence as a sacrifice to fate his Clamantha asked if they should meet again, to which he replied: "I have asked that dreadful question of the hills that look eternal—of the clear streams that flow forever—of the stars among whose fields of azure my raised spirit has walked in glory. All are dumb; but as I gaze upon thy dying face, I feel that there is something in the love that mantles through its beauty that cannot wholly perish. We shall meet again, Clamantha."

A GOOD OFFER.

We have effected an arrangement to club the STATESMAN with DEMOREST'S MONTHLY. For $5, in currency, we will send the WEEKLY STATESMAN and DEMOREST'S MONTHLY to one address for one year. This is a good opportunity to get a home newspaper and the leading Fashion Magazine of the United States, at a discount from the regular subscription rates. Send in your orders, enclosing greenback, or postal order for five dollars.

STATE NEWS.

From Daily of Saturday Dec. 28.

Albany is to have a grand New Years' ball.

The Albany Lodge of Odd Fellows have got a new lodge room.

In four days, ending Dec. 26th, Portland had 7.65 inches of rainfall.

The "Jolly Good Fellows," of Portland, are going to have a grand ball January 8th.

A party of twenty soldiers arrived on the Orifiamme, Wednesday morning, December 25th.

Mr. Ferry Raymond has been appointed postmaster at Albany, vice Freeland resigned.

Albany has a poet which his name it is Long. He breathes sulphuriously about Mt. Hood.

The Bulletin is of the opinion that $300,000 will cover all actual losses by the late fire at Portland.

The Pacific Christian Advocate closed its eighteenth volume, with the issue of Thursday, Dec. 26th.

Telegraphic news from Umpqua valley, report heavy rains since last Sunday morning. All the streams are up.

Receipts of Oregon flour at San Francisco for the present year, amount to 129,516 barrels. Wheat, about 90,000 centals. Oats, 15,120 centals. Salmon, 8,670 bbls. and packages. Dried Apples, 8,498 packages. Ripe Apples, 28,623 boxes.

The following are officers of Ellison Encampment, No. 1, I. O. O. F., Portland, for the next year: C. W. Parrish, C. P.; U. E. Hicks, H. P.; E. H. Stolte, S. W.; J. H. Lyon, Scribe; C. Hegele, Treasurer; J. F. Johnson, J. W. Trustees, A. G. Walling, J. M. Caywood and W. H. Braden.

The following are the officers of Samaritan Lodge, I. O. O. F., Portland, for the term begining Jan. 1st, 1873: David Raymond, N. G.; W. H. Brackett, V. G.; J. F. Johnson, R. S.; C. M. Perkins, Treasurer. Trustees, J. H. Lyon, W. H. Braden and J. C. Kingsley.

The Albany Democrat says: Quite a little breeze was created in our city this week by the appearance in our midst of Mr. Jacob Conser, of Jefferson, who offered 70 cents per bushel for wheat. In San Francisco the price is $2 per cental, which certainly justifies the payment of 70 cents by our local buyers.

The following are the new officers of the city of Scio: Mayor, Dr. J. T. Martin; Recorder, J. T. Miller; Treasurer, D. P. Mason; Marshal, B. E. Harris; Aldermen, O. W. Richardson, G. B. Christie, Peter Bilyen, J. S. Morris, Kee Hancock, E. Lost.

The Bulletin has this item: It is a little singular that for three consecutive Christmas holidays there has occured a death in the family of our fellow citizen, Hon. J. D. Biles. On Christmas Day, 1870, he lost one of his own little family circle. On Christmas Day, 1871, his father-in-law, Captain Kelly, died in Colorado; and on Wednesday Mrs. Kelly died in this city. These unwelcome coincidences have made Mr. Biles's a house of mourning instead of one of joy on the recurrence of the midwinter festival the last three years.

From Daily of Sunday Dec. 29.

The Clarendon Hotel, Portland, is to be closed the last of this month for repairs.

The Columbia river is reported to be gorged with ice above the Upper Cascades.

Night robbers and experts in chloroforming sleepers are the sensation now at Portland.

The Columbia river is reported rising rapidly. Thursday night the river rose at the Cascades three feet.

A petition is in circulation in Portland asking Congress to appropriate $25,000 for the improvement of the Yamhill river.

The Summit Lode Mine of Union county is reported to be yielding very profitably. It is owned principally by J. H. Packwood.

Work in the channel of the Willamette river below Portland has been suspended for the year, in consequence of high water.

A package of half-burned papers, from Walling's job office, was carried seven miles from Portland, over beyond Mud slough, on Columbia river bottom, at the time of the fire.

There will be a meeting of the Oregon State Horticultural Society in Portland Thursday, the 9th of January at 11 o'clock A. M., for the purpose of arranging and classifying the premium list for the next State Fair.

The following are officers of Hassalo Lodge No. 15, I. O. O. F., Portland, for the term beginning Jan. 1st, 1873: Ed. H. Stolte, N. G.; James A. Smith, V. G.; S. Harris, R. S.; E. D. Backenstos, Treasurer. A. G. Walling, J. M. Williamson and Andrew Hill, Trustees.

Mr. G. W. Vaughn, who is the owner of one-fourth of the levee ground burned over on the 22d inst., at Portland, has offered to give the city a good title to it for the sum of $27,000, provided that the remaining block and a half is purchased and the whole kept open for the use of the public as a levee.

On Christmas, says the Enterprise, Capt. Isaac W. Smith, Chief Engineer of the Locks, was presented with a fine gold watch by his assistant, E. G. Tilton, on behalf of the workmen and other friends, as a token of their esteem of him as a gentleman, and for his many courtesies and general good treatment toward the men who have been so long in his employ.

The Oregonian says: So far as we have heard there is but one voice among our citizens in reference to the purchase of the two blocks on the levee in the burnt district. The unanimous feeling seems to be that the city should purchase the blocks if there are no legal objections, and throw them open as a public levee.

From Daily of Tuesday Dec. 30.

Steamers are again running between Portland and Cascades.

Total number of arrests in Portland for the year 1872, was 1,625.

The Bedrock Democrat thinks it has discovered a volcano, about thirteen miles west of Baker city.

It is said that Lycurgus Vineyard, of Polk county, has fallen heir to $100,000 left him by his grandfather.

Mr. George Swift, who lives on Little Birch Creek, in Umatilla county, had his feet badly frozen a few weeks ago.

Mr. A. H. Brown, of Baker city, has been appointed as agent of the Centennial Association to receive subscriptions for stock in Eastern Oregon.

Thomas Markham, of Chehalem valley, has been arrested by the Sheriff of Yamhill on a charge of being implicated in burning Williamson's mill.

Dan'l. Chaplin of La Grande has gone to Washington to look after the interests of the Portland & Salt Lake Railroad, in Congress. He is one of the Directors.

Deputy U. S. Marshal, Dexter, who has been in Eastern Oregon, for a month or more, telegraphs that he has arrested another depredator upon the U. S. Mails.

It is reported that last Saturday evening, about 10 o'clock, there was quite a severe shock of an earthquake experienced in and around Walton, on the Columbia river.

It is reported that Mr. Trullinger is building a warehouse at Centerville in Washington county, and also a small steamer to ply on the waters of Dairy creek.

Sunday, Dec. 29th, the Portland Literary Association elected the following officers: Sam Simon, President; Louis Blumauer, Secretary; Benj. Mayer, Treasurer, Sam Beck, Manager.

A Greek scholar in Baker county explains that "epizootic" is from "zeo," to live, and "epi," around. Hence a disease that lives or goes around. Such are the resources of philology.

Some Indians are reported to have been killed by the earthquake near White Bluffs on the Columbia by the rocks shaking loose and rolling down into their camp, which was near the bluff.

The Benton Democrat says: The late rains having swollen Marys river, a number of parties spent Christmas day in scooping up (literally) thousands of brook trout near the dam. The fish were attempting to go over the dam, and were taken in scoop nets, by the basket-full at a go.

Corvallis has a Library Association, with the following named Directors: J. R. Bayley, Emery Allen, J. H. Babcock, John Burnett, J. S. Palmer, W. T. Johnson, B. W. Wilson, M. Jacobs and D. K. Nesbit. The capital stock has been fixed at $5,000, divided into one hundred shares. Stock books will be opened in a few days.

At a regular meeting of Englatin Lodge No. 6, A. F. & A. M., held at Halsteads on St. John's Day the following persons were installed to act as its officers for one year: W. D. Pittinger, W. M.; B. Schofield, S. W.; H. B. Morgan, J. W.; Serish Stephens, S. D.; F. Masch, J. D.; W. D. Hare, Treasurer; H. C. Raymond, Sec'y.

PUBLIC LANDS.

The following is a summary of the Land Office business transacted in the Roseburg Land Office during the month of December:

Land sold for cash, 2,406 acres; homestead entered, 3,240 acres; final homestead certificates issued, 248 acres; A. C. Scrip locations, 480 acres; pre-emptions filings, 5,600 acres. Total, 11,096 acres.

Ice in the Colorado is the latest luxury. And this locality is only twelve miles from Fort Yuma, which is acknowledged to be the hottest spot on the top of the earth. The miner who went below the surface sent back for his blankets.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

Discussion of Business Affairs Continued—Former Letters Reviewed.

SALEM, Dec. 28, 1872.

EDITOR STATESMAN:—I wish to refer to "Citizen's" article of the 15th inst and also to "Another Citizen," of the 18th inst. The articles are worthy the attention of all who are interested in the future welfare of Salem. That we need manufactories and concert of action is beyond a doubt, and those who undertake worthy enterprises should receive the undivided support of all well wishers to the prosperity of not only our city, but the entire State of Oregon. I have faith in the good intentions of Oregonians, that when the Hubbard or any other machine is manufactured here they will have the preference over Eastern manufactured machines at the same price. First try the people, before passing judgment. In regard to home manufactories, purchase of goods, etc., I ask "Citizen," have you practiced what you preach, or is it easier to preach than to practice? Some of our citizens when at Portland purchased supplies amounting to several hundred dollars and at higher rates than the same articles could have been purchased at home, thus depriving our merchants of their just dues. And yet many such parties will cry reform. Now a few words in regard to the article of the 18th inst. "Citizen" says that not a brick building pays six per cent. per annum clear profits on its first cost. If "Citizen" had said twelve per cent. I think it would have been nearer the mark for the majority of brick buildings not including the hotels (as a general thing hotels do not pay in any city in comparison to store rooms.) In regard to the "spirit of '49 and '54" to get rich rapidly, including business men, clerks, wood sawers, etc., I cannot agree with "Citizen" that high prices are paid for labor of all kinds, including clerk hire, wood sawing, etc. In no place on this coast are there as small wages paid, or goods sold at less profit than in Oregon. And in regard to boots. I have seen boots that were made here at eight dollars, and good boots at that. I say shame on the man that wishes to grind the faces of the laboring poor. *Late of Salem.* Of what I speak I know, having lived on this coast over twenty years and visited all the principal places on the coast; and I think if we do as our Portland friends do, toot our own horns and talk of our future greatness and prosperity at home and abroad, on the cars and elsewhere, and not always cry hard times! hard times!! we shall get along well enough.

STILL ANOTHER CITIZEN.

RATHER PERSONAL.

The Herald's Washington correspondent under date of Dec. 15th, makes the following mention of some of our congress people, at Washington:

I saw Sam Clarke on the Avenue yesterday, but what he is doing here I knew no idea. He is spending his time principally in the Senate gallery, where he can be seen most any day sandwiched between a couple of colored citizens. Sam has shown me a book of poems which he proposes to have published in New York.

Bill Farrar, formerly of your city, is here, and is enjoying good health. Last Winter, by fucks stroke of fortune, Farrar became possessed of a very large sum of money, which, as I understand, he has judiciously invested.

Mrs. Attorney-General Williams gave a reception and dinner party a few evenings since, which was attended by the members of the Cabinet, several Senators and Congressmen, and a number of Oregonians.

I have *not had* the pleasure of seeing Colonel Kelly, but I expect to call upon him on to-morrow. He resides on Capitol Hill, and during his short residence here has made a host of friends.

When in New York a few days since, I met Colonel Ruckle, who was looking poorly. The Colonel has been quite ill of late, but is improving.

Henry Cummins, formerly of your State, has an office in Wall street, New York, but what he is doing I have no idea. He talked largely about a certain railroad of which he is at the head. I asked him where the road was located, and to my surprise he pointed to a huge map that adorns one of the walls of the office. The railroad is, therefore, on paper, and so far as that is concerned it is a big thing.

THE STATE UNIVERSITY.

Organization of the Union University Association at Eugene City.

From the Guard Dec. 17.

Thursday evening, 26th inst., the incorporators of the Union University Association held a meeting, and the requisite amount of stock having been taken they proceeded to elect a Board of Directors, as follows: W. J. A. Scott, W. H. Abrams, J. J. Walton Jr., B. F. Dorris, and J. M. Thompson. A meeting was held yesterday, at which the persons above named were sworn to perform the duties of Directors and then proceeded to organize by electing Hon. J. M. Thompson President of the Board, and T. G. Hendricks Secretary. A resolution was adopted creating the office of Treasurer and J. H. McClung was chosen as that officer. J. M. Thompson, J. J. Walton Jr., and W. J. J. Scott was chosen as a committee to prepare by laws, rules and regulations for the government of the organization, after which the Board adjourned until Monday evening, 30th inst., at 7 o'clock.

POSTAL AFFAIRS.

Postoffice Established—Offices Discontinued—Postmasters Appointed.

The following Post-office changes were made in the Pacific States and Territories during the week ending December 14, 1872:

POST-OFFICES ESTABLISHED.—South Mountain, Owyhee county, Idaho, T. J. Vinton, P. M.

OFFICES DISCONTINUED.—Moclocse, Yakima county, Washington Territory; Sherwood's Mills, Mason county, Washington Territory.

POSTMASTERS APPOINTED.—Albany, Linn county, Oregon, Perry H. Raymond; Fort Colville, Steven county, Washington Territory, William A. Hubbard; Tulalip, Snohomish county, Washington Territory, P. C. Andrews; Tumwater, Clark Biles; Woodard's Landing, Chehalis county, Washington Territory, T. Reed Soule.

ENGLAND'S DEMAND FOR WHEAT.

The New York Herald, December 14th, thus concisely gives the condition of the English wheat demand:

England will want in the twelve months between September, 1872, and September, 1873, one hundred million bushels of wheat from foreign fields. She is now receiving five million bushels per week, of which a considerable share is from France, where the crop has been excellent. Our own broad fields will do their part toward making good the English deficiency, and with this margin we can count on our wheat for the means of paying the value of much of those goods and wares with which English enterprise and industry supply us.

Adam Bede had not outlived his sorrow—had not felt it slip from him as a temporary burden, and leave him the same man again. Do any of us? God forbid. It would be a poor result of all our anguish and our wrestling, if we won nothing but our old selves at the end of it—if we could return to the same blind love, the same self-confident blame, the same light thoughts of human suffering, the same frivolous gossip over blighted human lives, the same feeble sense of that unknown force of which we have sent forth irrepressible cries in our loneliness. Let us rather be thankful that our sorrow lives in us as an indestructible force, only changing its form, as force do, and passing from pain into sympathy, the one poor word which indicates all our best insight and our best love.

Truthfulness is a corner-stone of character, and if it be not firmly laid in youth there will always be a weak spot in the foundation.

Windsor county, Connecticut, has granted 306 divorces since 1840, or about 14 annually.

BY STATE TELEGRAPH.

Latest from the Modoc Country.

YREKA, Dec. 26.—From Alex. McKay and P. A. Dorris, who just arrived from Hot Creek, we get the following: On last Saturday, the 21st, a wagon with supplies from Camp Bidwell to Captain Bernard's camp on Lost river, was attacked by fifty-six Indians. Two soldiers were killed and scalped, and four wounded, and five mules killed, when in sight of camp. The Indians were lying in ambush. The Captain hurried to their assistance, but before reaching them the Indians escaped to the rocks and got away without robbing the wagon. The Modocs are gradually being reinforced by stragglers from reservations, and it is believed some of the Pitt river Indians have joined them. The time of the Oregon volunteers has almost expired, and they will soon be mustered out of service. There are 280 soldiers in the field. Taking those required for guard and escort duty, leaves only 175 for fighting, which is less than the Indians now number. There are only 14 soldiers at Fort Klamath to guard 2,500 Indians on the reservation there. Should the fight linger along for some time there is danger of their breaking out and joining the Modocs. It seems a difficult undertaking to get at the Modocs in their rocky retreat in the lava bed. We learn that 300 bombs and ordinance have been sent for, which will be something new for the Indians. A meeting of the citizens of this place was held to-night to consider the propriety of asking for volunteers from the State authorities, for a company of volunteers to protect the frontier settlements. Letters were read from General Ross and others in the Indian country, urging this action. P. A. Dorris was deputized on behalf of the citizens of this county, to proceed to Sacramento and confer with Governor Booth, and will start tomorrow.

The Modoc War—A Train Ambushed and fired into by Indians.

JACKSONVILLE, Dec. 27.—Information was received here to-day that the infantry train was waylaid and fired into on Lost river on Saturday last. Two soldiers were killed and eight others wounded. Part of Col. Ross' volunteer force were sent to the west side of Little Klamath Lake to reinforce the soldiers. Further particulars expected to-morrow.

THE MINES OF EASTERN OREGON.

(From the Bulletin, Dec. 28.)

We have often wondered at the lack of enterprise shown by our business men throughout this portion of our State regarding the mining facilities of Eastern Oregon. It is a well known fact that most of the mines worked in Oregon are under the control, and, in most cases, owned by Californian capitalists. Oregonians seem fearful of mining stock, and will not invest, while a genuine Californian asks no better speculation than an embryo mining company. True it is, they often prove nought but a bubble and burst in mid air, but as a general thing mining pays, and usually men of energy, pluck and nerve manage to eke out a good livelihood and often times "pan out" an independent fortune. This fact has been forcibly recalled to our mind by meeting W. H. Packwood, a gentleman who in all probability is as well posted in the mining facilities of this State as can be found anywhere. He is en route to California to organize a stock company for the purpose of making further developments of Summit Mine, near Baker City. He informs us that the well known Virtue Mines are turning out much better than was ever expected of them.

Superintendent D. H. Jackson is now working about 40 men, and they are able to take out enough rock for a 20-stamp mill. The mine is owned by a California firm and is paying handsome dividends. It is the intention of the company to erect a 25-stamp mill at the ledge, and thereby save an expense now incurred in hauling the ore a distance of seven miles, to Baker City, before it can be worked. The cost of hauling is about $2 50 a ton, which will prove quite an item if saved.

But the mines that Mr. Packwood is more particularly interested in are the Summit and North Star in the Augusta mining district. We have had under inspection some specimens of the rock brought from there, which appear unusually rich. The ore consists largely of iron and copper pyrites, and will run from $8 to $60 per ton, with a general average of over $20. This yield is gathered after the rock is worked in an ordinary way with stamps and copper plates. Were concentrators and pans used, the yield would at least be increased from $5 to $8 per ton. They have two stamp mills—One of them owned by Merrick, & White, and the other by Packwood & Co. In the Summit mine they have now reached a depth of 150 feet from the earth's surface, and find the vein to be from six inches to four feet in width. Levels run Summit mine and tap the North Star mine about 100 feet below the surface, showing a splendid vein about two feet thick. The North Star rock that has been worked in an ordinary way has turned from $15 to $44 per ton. The facilities for working the mines are excellent. Plenty of wood and water are near at hand, and can be used without going to any great trouble or expense to get them. When we consider the fact that all the gold taken out is clear profit after paying $8 per ton, we can but think the mines are paying ones. Mr. Packwood says he has already taken out about $20,000, and he is fully satisfied that there is plenty more where that came from. He is going below on the next steamer to interest capitalists in the Oregon mines, and bears with him letters of introduction to most of the heavy dealers in mining stocks. Californians will in all probability invest in the enterprise and reap the benefits thereof. Why would it not be a good idea for more Oregonians to try the mining business a little, and see if it don't "pan out" well?

CONSOLING TO SMOKERS.—In a letter on the tobacco question, the London Lancet says:

To the poor man working hard and living hard at the same time—to the soldier, fatigued, cold and ill fed during a campaign—tobacco is, we believe, both useful and comforting. It soothes some excitable men, and enables many others to concentrate their attention on subjects requiring thought. If tobacco be poison that its enemies declare it to be, it is eminently slow in its action, for every workhouse, lunatic asylum and charitable institution has its gray-haired votaries of the pipe.

Granger, Hampton county, O., claimed to be the banner township of the Union, because she gave Grant 179 votes, to 1 for Greeley, but Massachusetts is heard from as follows, and Granger takes a back seat: Boutwell—552 for Grant, 1 for Greeley; Holden—125 for Grant, 0 for Greeley; Pembroke—130 for Grant, 0 for Greeley; Acushnet—122 for Grant, 0 for Greeley; Boylston—122 for Grant, 0 for Greeley.

An old lady, on entering a store the other day, said: "Why, it can't be that you keep this store, yet! I thought you had gone out of bussness. I ain't seen your name or anything about your store in the paper for over a year, and everbody in our neighborhood thinks you have gone out of the business.

An enterprising phrenologist once wrote a note to the late Charles Dickens, asking permission to make an examination of his cranium. Dickens replied "Dear Sir: At this time I require the use of my skull, but as soon as it shall be at leisure I will willingly place it at your disposal.'

There are 700 Japanese students in various schools and colleges in this country.

A prominent member of the staff of Gen. Mosby during the civil war is now on the staff of the Chicago Inter-Ocean, where his present pen is mightier than his former sword.

Whisky is said to be a horn of plenty, because it will corn you copiously.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

SALEM, Dec. 30, 1872.

Gold in New York 111⅝.

Legal Tender quotations 89½c buying, 90c selling.

As the day approaches for closing up eth accounts of the year, the pressure in the money market is more severe than before. The inability to meet bills is not confined to the extravagant, reckless or bad managers; some of the best men in the country are frequently compelled to ask indulgence. There is however a hopeful feeling growing out of the improved prospects for wheat, and a general impression prevails that the market will ease up, after New Year's.

Liverpool Wheat, 12s 4d@12s 6d; Club, 12s 9d@12s.

PORTLAND PRODUCE MARKET.

[From the Oregonian, Dec. 30.]

Wheat.—The week now closing has been almost as a blank in the market, transactions having been almost entirely checked. There is no doubt but that the trade will be livelier in a few days, should we have anything like fair weather. The rise in the river will enable boats to reach much grain which before found no way to reach tide water. In the meantime we have intimations that the market in California is weaker, while our Liverpool quotations are a little advanced. We see no cause to change our quotations of $1 55@1 60 per cental, with possibly an advance on large lots.

Oats.—We note considerable receipts, and prices remain as at last report. The steamer to sail to-morrow will carry a large lot to San Francisco.

Flour.—The California market appears to be taking a downward tendency. Ours is unchanged.

Barley—But little is offering. Quotable nominally at $1 40@1 50 per cental.

Potatoes.—Large receipts have weakened the market, and we quote jobbing lots at 40@45 cents per bushel.

Feed.—There is no great amount on hand, and prices are stiffening, owing, perhaps, to advance of the ruling figures for wheat.

Butter—There is but little activity in the market, and the tendency of prices is slightly downward, though choice is in fair demand at our former quotation of 40@42 cents per lb. All other qualities are dull.

Wool.—Our market, in sympathy with that of California and the East, presents an active demand, and prices are firm at 30@33 cents per lb. The Montana, from San Francisco to Panama, to-day carried over 23,000 tons. There is but little coming to hand.

SAN FRANCISCO MARKETS.

[By Telegraph.]

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—Value of exports during the week, $430,000. The import trade during the week has been fair.

Flour—Quiet; $5 75@6 25.

Wheat—Difficult to get over $2, as the demand is nominal at $1 90@2 00; sale of 200 sks fair, $1 87½.

Barley—Dull at $1 30@1 32½; bay, $1 37½@1 45.

Oats—Jobbing, $2@2 25.

Hay—$16@24 will cover the market.

Potatoes—Red, $1@1 25; Humboldt, $1 12.

Fruits—Apples, 50c@$1 95; pears, 75c@$2 00; box oranges, $4@6 50 ⅌ thousand.

FURS! FURS!!

For the Coming Holidays.

BREYMAN BROS. are now opening a fine and selected stock of Furs of all descriptions, consisting of

Mink, Fitch, Alaska and French Plushes.

All of them will be sold low. Come and see before you purchase.

dec 12 2w BREYMAN BROS.

Willamette University.

The next Term will begin Dec. 16, 1872 in connection with the Normal Department a

MODEL SCHOOL,

for primary pupils will be organized with MISS LIZZIE ROSE as Teacher. Tuition in primary studies, $7 00 per term of thirteen weeks. (Nov30'72:3t w4w

On Marriage.

Happy Relief for Young Men from the effects of Errors and Abuses in early life. Manhood restored. Impediments to Marriage removed. New method of treatment. New and remarkable remedies. Books and Circulars sent free, in sealed envelopes. Address, HOWARD ASSOCIATION, No. 1, South Ninth St., Philadelphia, Pa. an Institution having a high reputation for honorable conduct and professional skill. aug21 72:1aw6m

☞ The Best Remedy for Purifying the Blood, Strengthening the Nerves, Restoring the lost Appetite, is

FRESE'S HAMBURG TEA.

It is the best preservative against almost any sickness, if used timely. Composed of herbs only, it can be given safely to infants. Full directions in English, French, German and Spanish, with every package. TRY IT! For sale at the wholesale and Retail Drug Store, and Grocers.

EMIL FRESE, Wholesale Druggist, Sole Agent, 324 Clay Street, San Francisco. oct28'72m6iw

Startling, but True!

The silent workings of these great remedies, Bristol's Sarsaparilla and Pills, are truly wonderful. From Portland, Oregon, we have the report of an extraordinary cure of Ulcerous, eating disease, which, after defying all other treatment, succumbed to these two great remedies. 646

For Coughs and Throat Disorders, use "Brown's Bronchial Troches," having proved their efficiency by a test of many years.

If you desire rosy cheeks and a complexion fair and free from Pimples, Blotches and Eruptions, purify your blood by taking Dr Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It has no equal for this purpose.

A soothing cordial of a slightly tonic character, Brown's Ginger Tonic, "SILVER TIPPED" has never yet met its equal. For sale by all Dealers. Nov 19 w1m

A sure thing. CABLE SCREW WIRE Boots and Shoes will not rip, leak or come apart, and are the easiest ever worn. Try them. All bear the Patent Stamp. Nov16 1m

SOCIETY NOTICES.

Olive Lodge, No. 18, I. O. O. F. Meets every Saturday evening at 7:30 P. M. Visiting brothers are invited to attend. Sept. 7:tf

G. A. R.—Russell Post, No. 3, G.A.R. meets Friday evenings of each week. All Comrades in good standing invited to attend. By order, Ap16'72:tf. COMMANDER

REBEKAH DEGREE LODGE—Meets at Odd Fellows Hall the 1st Tuesday evening of each month at 8 o'clock. All Brethren, with their wives, in good standing, are invited to attend. By order of N. G. Salem, July 4th, 1872—tf

Anniversary Lodge, No. 13, I. O. O. F. Regular meetings Monday evenings of each week at 7 o'clock P. M., at Odd Fellows Hall, corner Commercial and Ferry Streets. All Brothers in good standing are invited to attend. By order of N. G. July17:tf

Chemeketa Lodge, No. 1, I. O. O. F. REGULAR meetings Wednesday evenings of each week, at 7 o'clock P. M., at Odd Fellows' Hall, corner Commercial and Ferry streets. All Brothers in good standing invited to attend. By order of S. G. Sep5'72:3m

Willamette Encampment No 2, I. O. O. F.—Meets on the 2d and 4th. Tuesday evenings of each month at Odd Fellows Hall corner Commercial and Ferry Streets. All sojourning brethren in good standing are invited to attend. By order of C. P. and 1:72:tf

BREWERY DEPOT.

AT REDUCED PRICES,

Oysters in all Styles,

Everything Cooked to Order,

Lunches, 25 Cts,

Fishes. Soups. Pigs-Feet. Etc., 25 Cts.

MEALS AT ALL TIMES.

CHAS. WEISNER, Brewery Depot.

Persons to whom I am indebted are invited to call and get given. 1:tf

W. W. MARTIN,

Practical Watchmaker AND JEWELER,

COMMERCIAL STREET, SALEM, OREGON,

Dealer in

Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, SOLID SILVER AND PLATED WARE.

Watches and Jewelry Repaired.

JEWELRY MADE TO ORDER.

☞ A good assortment of GOLD and SILVER WATCHES constantly on hand.

All Goods and Work Warranted. dec27:tf

GREAT SALE.

Important to Everybody.

UNUSUAL ATTRACTION.

J. G. WRIGHT

WILL display his immense Stock of HOLIDAY GOODS at the Pioneer Store, commencing Monday, December 16th, 1872, and will continue until all are sold.

A COMPLETE ASSORTMENT OF

Fancy Glass and Shell Boxes, Ladies' Work Boxes, Candy Boxes, Tool Boxes, Match Boxes, Shell Boxes, Rubber Rattles, Rubber Balls, Ass't Rubber Toys, Hot Air Toys, Ariel