

Grant County News.

VOL. I. NO. 45.

CANYON CITY, OREGON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1880.

TERMS: \$3. PER YEAR.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

C. W. PARRISH,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
CANYON CITY, OREGON.

M. L. OLMSTEAD,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
CANYON CITY, OREGON.

GEO. B. CURREY,
Attorney at Law,
CANYON CITY, OREGON.

M. DUSTIN,
Attorney at Law,
Canyon City, Oregon.

F. C. HORSLEY, M. D.
GRADUATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, April 8, 1848.

Office in his Drug Store, Main Street. Orders for Drugs promptly filled. No professional patronage solicited unless directions are strictly followed.

J. W. HOWARD, M. D.,
CANYON CITY, GRANT CO., OREGON.

O. M. DODSON, M. D.,
Prairie City, - Ogn.

N. H. BOLEY,
DENTIST,
Dental Rooms, Opposite the Methodist Church.
CANYON CITY, OREGON.

G. I. HAZELTINE,
Photographer,
CANYON CITY, OREGON.

GEO. SOLLINGER,
CANYON CITY
MILK-MAN.

The best of Milk furnished to the citizens of Canyon City every morning, by the gallon or quart; at reasonable rates.

Frank McCallum's
Variety Store,
John Day City, - - - Oregon.

CHOICE GROCERIES,
TOBACCO,
CIGARS,
STATIONERY,
NUTS AND
CONFECTIONERY,
ETC., ETC.

Would respectfully solicit a share of the patronage of the citizens of John Day and surrounding country.
MAIN STREET, JOHN DAY, - - - OREGON.

PHIL METSCHAN & CO.

Announce that they have received a full and well assorted Stock of

GENERAL
MERCHANDISE,
which they offer
CHEAP FOR
CASH.

Having bought for Cash we are prepared to sell our Goods Cheaper than they were ever before sold in this Market.
Canyon City, Jan. 16. 1880.

Hotels.

N. RULISON, A. H. GROTH.

CITY HOTEL

CANYON CITY, OREGON.

RULISON & GROTH, - - Proprietors

Begin leave to inform their friends
And the Public Generally!

That they can be found at the

OLD STAND,

And are always ready to furnish good
Board and Lodging
AT MODERATE PRICES.

GOLDEN EAGLE HOTEL,

Canyon City, Oregon.

The undersigned takes pleasure in announcing to his Patrons and the general public that after a trial of nearly a year, he feels confident of success in Hotel business.

I shall endeavor to gain the esteem of my guests, and give them their money's worth.

Terms of Board and Lodging, Invariably Cash:

Board and lodging, per single day, \$1.50.

" without lodging, per single day, \$1.

Board and lodging, per week, \$7.

" without lodging, per week, \$5.

JOHN SEGERDAHL, Proprietor.

Grange Hotel.

PRAIRIE CITY, OREGON,

J. H. Hardman, Proprietor.

The accommodations at the above Hotel are good, and every care will be taken to make guests feel at home.

Comfortable beds, and as good a table as the market affords furnished at reasonable rates.

HARNEY HOTEL

Fort Harney, Oregon.

N. OLIVER, Proprietor.

Having completed my Hotel I am prepared to entertain the traveling public with care and comfort. The table is supplied with the best the market affords. The beds are neat and clean.

DALLES AND BAKER CITY



STAGE LINE,

Vaile & Co., - - - Proprietors.

Departs from Canyon City for The Dalles and Baker City, Daily.

Arrives from the same points, Daily.

R. C. WILLIAMSON, Supt.

CANYON CITY & McDERMIT



STAGE LINE,

FRANK McBEAN, - - Proprietor

Departs from Canyon City on Monday, Thursday, and Saturday of each week.

Arrives at Canyon City on Sunday, Wednesday and Friday of each week.

I. X. L. TOMATOES.

Put up expressly for Family Use, in three pound cans.— [Warranted, finer, better and cheaper than the Imported Tomatoes.] By G. W. Houston, Canyon City, Oregon. For sale by Phil. Metschan & Co., Gundlach & Bro and the Proprietor.

AN OPEN LETTER FROM THE CITIZENS OF GRANT COUNTY TO GOVERNOR THAYER ON THE INDIAN QUESTION.

CANYON CITY, GRANT CO., OGN. }
Feb. 10, 1880. }

W. W. THAYER,

GOVERNOR OF OREGON:—Sir, we, the undersigned citizens and residents of Grant County, Oregon, most respectfully call your serious consideration to our exposed condition, as a people. You are aware of our isolation, and the distance we are located from any considerable body of white settlers—that our only means of transportation is the freight wagon; that all roads reaching this region traverse barely passable mountains. That our usual lines of transportation is from The Dalles, on the Columbia, a distance from here, of one hundred and eighty miles. That our nearest railroad, the Central Pacific, at Winnemucca, Nevada, is nearly three hundred and fifty miles away. That the nearest telegraph stations are at Boise City and The Dalles, one two hundred and the other one hundred and eighty miles distant. That difficult mountain passes and inhospitable wastes guard, ingress and egress to or from our region. Thus situated we view with alarm and no ordinary solicitude, events now transpiring at Military Head Quarters at Washington, and at the Department of the Interior, events which deeply and directly interest us and compel us as citizens and men to take into consideration the safety of our property, ourselves and our families. We learn with dismay, it has already been determined by the U. S. Military authorities to abandon, as a military Post, Fort Harney, now located on the Malheur Indian Reservation in this county. This will leave all the scattered settlements of this county wholly exposed to, and without protection from the wily schemes and murderous practices of an Indian population, more numerous than the whites, with no part of the U. S. Army within two hundred miles of us.

Succor from any of the remote U. S. Garrisons can reach us only by the roads and passes of the character indicated above. Thus rendering it certain that troops commanded by energetic and willing leaders cannot reach any part of our exposed border short of ten days hard travel, after intelligence of trouble shall have reached them. How long it may take to communicate with the distant military is uncertain, depending on many contingencies and chances inseparable from Indian warfare. While the Military are planning the removal of all troops and munition of war from our region of country, the Departments of the Interior exhibits remarkable zeal and energy in gathering upon and within our borders a large number of wild warlike Indians. From late advices we learn with horror and dread forebodings, that the Pute Indians, who so late as the summer of 1878 raided, without provocation or pretense of provocation on the part of the white settlers of our county, destroying and carrying off our property, burning our homes and murdering our citizens.

These Indians go back, unpunished to the place where they formerly plotted war and organized their devastating raid upon our unsuspecting citizens. They return upon terms dictated by themselves. Having gained by diplomacy, with the Department at Washington, immunity from past crimes, and concessions, yielding to them all they DEMANDED. Victorious in all their plans of war in 1878, so far as the whites were opponents, and now again successful as DIPLOMAT'S. They are now told by our governmental officials to return over the region made desolate by their arms and burning brands to their old haunts—there to again brew war and plot murders and murder. And returning they will be-

hold the departing soldiery, and complacently calculate their increased chances for another successful raid. If in 1878 many houses were burned, scores of citizens killed, and more than two thousand horses killed or captured by them, now that the U. S. Army has abdicated in favor of the Putes, their future raids will be doubly profitable.

It is well understood, by all conversant with our Indian pop. that the principal grievances of which the Indians have complained and the prime cause of the wars of 1877 and 1878 were the regulations of the Indian Department requiring Indians to REMAIN on their Reservations closer than in former years; and that all able-bodied male Indians should work.

By the terms of the settlement with the Putes, both these objectionable features of Reservation life to the Indians were abandoned by the Department. The Pute can now stay on the Reservation, if he so desires, if not under the pretext of working for some imaginary white person,—with gun and horse he can roam at pleasure—a gentleman of leisure of the Rob Roy style, while the United States provisions his family. With his innate love of war, the inherited hatred he bears the whites, his fondness for murdering, and passion for stealing horses; is there any reasonable probability the Pute will long remain an idle, harmless loiterer in the plains or an inoffensive loiterer in the mountains. It is an armed brigand and hereditary foe that proposes to take position upon our border. The withdrawal of the Fort Harney garrison leaves this brigand and impenetrable foe in full possession of the county, unless the citizens arm and dispute his rights to despoil, kill and plunder at will. He is more than a brigand, for he is above the law, and may in the future, as in the past, defy our law and treat with contempt warrants from our courts. We tried to invoke our law against him in 1878 with what success let the archives of our officers declare no Indians were arrested, though many were the murders they committed.

The concessions made to the Putes increases our danger and augments our solicitude by reason of their affects upon surrounding tribes by ENCOURAGING them to emphasize THEIR demands for free license to loaf, by organizing a raid upon our people.

Without the raid of 1878 does any Warm Spring, Klamath, Bannock, Umatilla, Columbia river, Duck valley or Cayuse Indian, for a moment suppose, the late terms, so satisfactory to the Pute Indians would have been possible. Of the six or seven thousand Indian warriors now within raiding distance of Eastern Oregon, not one of them is so stupid as not to comprehend the fact that no argument suits an Indian's purpose so well, or is comparable, to the fact that he or his tribe is the HERO of a raid or massacre, wherein settlements have been devastated, people killed, and all sorts of fiendish barbarities perpetrated upon white settlers. If the Indian is only careful to keep his tomahawk out of official brains, his bloody works are his best arguments. With a belt full of citizen and soldier's scalps, the ashes of ruined homes upon his feet, the diplomatic representative of a tribe of thieves and murderers enters by request, and at the nation's expense, the council chambers in high places the National Capitol; and after much coaxing and official palaver, his grim and murderous highness condescends to pronounce his DEMANDS, which are quickly, if not gladly conceded by mighty potentates and honorable Secretaries. The lives of pioneers are thus the pawns on the bloody board on which the "Indian problem" is now being played.

With the Putes swarming and murdering to our east and south the Warm

Springs recruiting their ranks or in open revolt—the Umatillas on our north seeding their old men and women to mass, and their young men to waylay and murder our people, you can perceive the settlers of Grant County will be girded with a cordon of warlike savages. Our communications will be cut off. The outside world can know nothing of the conflict within. Owing to our scattered settlements, the process will be a concentration of an overwhelming mass of Indians upon one weak settlement after another.

This combination of Indians against us is not only possible but more probable from the known temper of surrounding tribes. The question now being seriously considered by very many of our most thoughtful citizens is, "Shall we await the consummation of this combination for our ruin, or shall we, acting in defence of our lives and families, try to lessen the danger by meeting it half way? And instead of permitting the Indians the choicest of the time and place of commencing hostilities make our own choice.

Such a course is fraught with danger; which we fully comprehend. We know by taking the solitary steps we will be denounced by persons who know nothing of frontier life, its dangers and responsibilities; but we have concluded that it is better to live and be denounced by a distant people than to prove false to ourselves and families, and be scalped by our red neighbors. We regret the necessity which compels our people to arrive at such a resolution; but life is as dear to us, although we be pioneers, as though we securely walked the paved streets of Washington wrapped in official robes. We feel impelled by circumstances, which we cannot control, to act for our own preservation.

Therefore we frankly advise you of our situation and straight to which we are about to be reduced, with some hope that you, as the Governor of the State, may find some way of reaching the ears and touching the understanding of those having control over the matters about which we have written you, that if possible we may be released from the necessity of protecting ourselves, our property and families.

Very Respectfully, Yours, etc.,
GEO. B. CURREY, ATTORNEY.
M. L. OLMSTED, ATTY.
D. G. OVERHOLT, MERCHANT.
JOHN MULDRICK, "
W. S. SOUTHWORTH, Co. CLERK.
T. W. POINDEXTER, " TREAS.
JOHN J. WASH, SHERIFF.
R. LOCKWOOD, DEPT. SHERIFF.
S. H. SHEPHERD, EDITOR NEWS.

YOUR COUNTY PAPER.—One of the first duties of a good citizen is to aid as far as he can in supporting his county paper, for that paper can do more to promote the moral, intellectual and material interests of his county than any other, or all other, agencies.

Show us a country which liberally supports a newspaper, and we will show you a country whose people are intelligent, enterprising and prosperous. A good newspaper flourishes only where the people of the country are known abroad for their intelligence and prosperity in all their pursuits of life. About the best county to move from is one that does, or supports indifferently, its county newspaper. About the best county to move into is one which does support, and supports liberally, its newspaper.—Louisville Courier Journal.

BLANK Deeds for sale at this office.

Subscribe for the NEWS.