THE GRANT COUNTY NEWS.

December 11, 1890.

A stringent tramp law has been passed in Iowa. It declares that any male person sixteen years of age or over, who is physically able to work, who is wandering about begging or idle, and who cannot show reasonable efforts to secure employment, shall be deemed a tramp, sent to jail and put to hard work. Oregon has no such law, but should have one. There is no excuse for tramps here.

Everybody predicts and expects that the short session of congress which convened on the 1st, will be from one and another cause, one of the most important in its effect upon the political future of the three great political parties, for it is now conceded by all shrewd observers that the Farmers Alliance is one of the great political parties of the country, and that it will take a prominent part in the great national battle of 1892.

Revised tables giving the final count of the population of the country have been made public by the census office. This count makes the population of the United States 62,622,250. This is an increase of 141,110 over the total as previously announced. The change has been made as the result of the correction of errors in the first count and the insertion of names known to have been omitted therefrom.

Jay Gould has secured control of nearly all of the big western railroads and of the Pacific mail steamship company. It is already announced that he will immediately raise the freight tariff on all lines of railroad west of the Misissippi river. Of course he will; he isn't satisfied with getting the largest half of the money received by the farmers and cattle raisers of the west and northwest for carrying their produce to market. He wants it all.

One would hardly take the author of the following to be the greatest infidel of the age, for it breathes of a hereafter; but it is one of Ingersoll's sentences: "Over the grave bends Love sobbing, and by her side stands Hope and whispers: 'We shall meet again.' Before all life is death, and after all death is life. The falling leaf, touched with the hectic flush that testifies of autumn's death, is, in a subtler sense, a prophecy of spring."

It has been found that Grover Cleveland was not entitled or elected to the presidency during the four years that he served, but that Jim Blaine is the one who should have warmed the seat during that time. This claim is based upon the fact that five thousand men, inmates of soldiers' homes and other public institutions on Long Island, all voted for Cleveland. The supreme court of New York state has decided that these men were not entitled to vote. This decision may afford some satisfaction to Jim, but it came too late to be of any benefit.

Eddy Wickdale living in Butte, Mont., aged 14 years, brutally assaulted Charles Humboldt a playmate, inflicting fatal injuries. He enticed young Humboldt to a secluded spot and demanded of him 65 cents Humboldt had displayed with boyish pride some time before. Being refused, he set upon him with a heavy iron bar, and after beating his victim insensible, took the money and fled. Wickdale's depravity is probably due to reading dime novels. Neither boy is yet 15 years old, yet one kills the other for a few cents. China and other heathen lands ought to send a few missionaries over this way.

A big story is going around, about a letter having been received at Sacramento from Portland, signed John Bancroft, in which the writer says that he is on his death bed and wishes to make known the fact that eight years ago he was a tramp in Amador county and that a lady named Fevall gave him his supper, night's lodging and breakfast. She also gave him $1 and sent him away with good advice. The writer says he braced up, came to Oregon and is now worth $15,000, which he wills ts his benefactress. If all cases wherein tramps were befriended would turn out as in this instance everybody would take great pains to bestow grub and a dollar upon a tramp. Unfortunately, though, similar cases are rare.

UNAPPRECIATED FEET.

Expert age of a Philadelphia Girl Who Tried to Startle England.

English women, says the shoemaker, have large feet and know it. They live up to them serenely, and wear great boots and shoes, square-toed, broad, flat-heeled, with a naivette that amuses and scandalizes their American cousins. They don't care tuppence for feet. In the great tide of American girls that rushed across the Atlantic last spring to revel in a London season, says the Boston Herald, there was a gay little Philadelphian, bright as a brand-new dollar, witty, clever, but, alas! accurated in the element of beauty in her native land, decidedly plain. One good point, indeed, she possessed beyond question, and that was her feet. They were simply beautiding. Small—size 2 or No. 1—slender, with an instep arched like a Spanish senorita's; they were things of beauty and joy forever, and the young woman to whom they belonged squandered her substance in silk stockings and vanities when she was on the point of starting for England.

"There," she sighed to herself, in rapturous anticipation, "I shall be appreciated. My feet will probably create a furor, and I should think, could I secure one an Earl, at least. I wonder if her Majesty will mention them when I am presented? It is my golden opportunity, the chance of my lifetime!"

She came back to Newport in August a sadder and a wiser girl—without the Earl.

"It's all a snare and a delusion," she pouted at luncheon to her interested friends. "Those English girls have feet that are simply enormous—enormous! I only saw one who wore a smaller boot than a seven. But they have no refinement of feeling, no artistic sensitiveness at all. Not a soul ever mentioned mine! Not a single soul! I kept them displayed as artlessly and prodigiously as I could wherever I went, and not one living human being ever spoke of them."

"Not the Queen?" suggested her bosom friend. (It is always your bosom friend who asks disagreeable questions.)

"The Queen?" repeated the Philadelphian. "My dears," her voice sank to an impressive whisper, "my dears, I give you my word when I saw her she had on low black slippers, something like ankle ties, and crowded into them her fat feet in white stockings. That's the sort of thing they admire over there!"

"GENTLEMEN TRAMPS."

They Are Becoming as Numerous in New York as Monument Fonds.

What the police call "gentlemen tramps" are becoming more and more prevalent, says the New York sun. Members of the force and people who are familiar with the loungers in certain parts of New York are often interested in the gradual downfall of a man whom they know by sight. As the months go by these lounger grow more and more seedy and needy in appearance. Neatness leaves them and they gradually become mendicants on the highways; but they are not classed with the regular professional tramp. The "gentlemen tramps" are men who have seemingly been respectable and often have some sort of a desire to procure work. They are always going somewhere to assume an advertisement or to make an inquiry, but incidentally they are on the outlook for alms. Perhaps the most successful of all these men is a tall and rather military looking personage, about fifty years of age, with a waxy moustache and a head of curly white hair. He tramps between Fifteenth and Twenty-third streets, and according to the police and shopkeepers of that district, has begged for nearly eight years. He was seen a fourth-walker at a famous [illegible] house on Fourteenth street. His feet were almost on the ground, but there is a possession of a leather on what remained of his boots, and there is an air of aristocracy that betrays weakness in his attire. He does not approach people promiscuously, but singles out his victims with great sagacity and care. They are nearly always elderly ladies or spinsters verging on indefinite life. He starves as the woman from whom he intends to beg plaintively for a long time as he walks behind her. Then he takes off his hat, approaches humbly, and poures out his tale of woe. He never enters any circumstances, attempts to beg from a man. His story is so effective that in nearly every instance the woman from whom he begs stops and listens sympathetically. Then she opens her purse slowly and looks at her change. After carefully considering the question after the fashion of women, she deliberately selects her coin and passes it over to the beggar. His manifestation of gratitude is extreme. He is said to be the only beggar who succeeds regularly in getting contributions from the same victims many times over.

Value of a Passenger Train.

But few persons who view a passenger train as it goes thundering past have an idea that it represents a cash value of from $75,000 to $150,000, but such is the case. The ordinary express train represents from $50,000 to $[illegible]. The engine and tender are valued at $10,500; the baggage car, $1,000; the postal car, $2,000; the smoking car, $5,000; two ordinary passenger cars, $10,000 each; three palace cars, $[illegible] each—total, $[illegible]. Many trains are worth $250,000.

A Blast in Curves.

Mrs. O'Daghan—It's sorry I am, Mrs. Galloway, to hear as how yer son was gone for the bad. Sure, now, I thought some fine day he'd be a great statesman, or congressman, or some thing.

Mrs. Galloway (sadly)—Yes, Mrs. O'Daghan, the lye had the makin' av a gherat statesman in 'im, only the head was a little wake, an' he didn't stand the pholicy.

Watches for Blind Men.

A watch for blind people has been invented in Switzerland. In the middle of every figure is a small pin, which drops when the hour-hand reaches the figure. The owner feels that the pin is down, and repeats it to twelve (which [illegible]).

A STORY FULL OF SMILES!

A Humorous Serial; and Yet a Story with a Strong Plot, Full of Incident and Interesting Characters.

Mr. Fielding is one of the brightest and cleanest humorous writers in America. His fun is pure and natural; and the comic situations into which, in this charming tale, his characters are often placed are certainly very amusing.

It is seldom that we have the pleasure of offering to our readers such a literary treat as this story is certain to be.

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"THE VICTIM of HIS CLOTHES"

in these columns and the opening chapters will shortly appear.

We bespeak for this story a hearty reception at the hands of all our readers and at the same time would modestly ask them to not forget the enterprising publisher and editor who spares no labor nor expense to give them the best home paper in the State. Tell your friends about the kind of paper we publish and have them send in their subscriptions at once. We appreciate the good word kindly spoken; but in any event propose to lose no opportunity to still further increase the excellency of this journal.

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Fur Caps, capes and mitts; fine and cheap dress goods; fine and cheap facinators. The finest line of shoes in Eastern Oregon.

For the Gentlemen:

Elegant fur and wool caps; fine line of winter overcoats. A neat business suit and a fine dress suit. Also a full line of furnishing goods and for the general trade. We offer you such inducements in the grocery line that we defy competition.

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We have received and opened a well selected stock of Gents' Furnishing Goods, Hats, Boots, Shoes, Blankets, Quilts, Hardware, Crockery, Glassware. Etc.

Also Fancy and Staple Groceries, Provisions and a full assortment of Patent Medicines, Notions, Etc.

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Dealers In General Merchandise.

A Large Assortment at Lowest Prices. Goods Sold at Bedrock Prices. Trade of Grant County Solicited, and Special Inducements Offered.

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Groceries, Flour, Tobaccos, Cigars, and one hundred and one other varieties, cheap for cash, at

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