

THE GRANT COUNTY NEWS.

January 29, 1891.

The United States authorities are going after timber land sharps with a vengeance. Recently they jailed three or four at Portland.

One member each of the Oregon and Washington legislatures has died since the session began. Senator Eastham of Clackamas county, Or., and Representative Davis of Kittitas county, Wash.

Professor Wiggins is again in an active state of prediction. He says there will be no earthquakes around about or on this coast until about August 17th, 1904.

Boomers contemplate capturing the Cherokee nation in the same way they did Oklahoma. Unless they get a better bargain they had better leave the Indians in possession of their land.

Even kings die. Kalakana, king of the Sandwich Islands, who came to this country that his health might be benefited, died in San Francisco on the 20th. His body was conveyed home in one of the United States war ships.

The Montana legislature, as usual, is doing nothing. The members are divided off into factions, and have a big row nearly every day. A "most pleasant toime," surely. We ought to feel proud of our own peaceable Oregon legislature.

The Oregonian's motive in booming Governor Penoyer for the presidency cannot be clearly understood. Perhaps the Oregonian sees far enough ahead to know that he cannot possibly be elected, and booms him for the purpose of defeating the democrats next year.

Baker county's representatives will make an effort to procure state aid for boring artesian wells in that county. Artesian wells would greatly benefit Eastern Oregon, and while the State is in the appropriation business a sum of money might thus be judiciously expended.

Money has a habit of flowing out of stock countries, except when sheep or cattle are marketed. Wells, Fargo's express office at Lakeview issued 989 money orders aggregating \$14,752.28, during 1890, while they cashed but 139, aggregating but \$3,071.36, during the same year.

At a meeting of Ex Confederate soldiers in Baltimore recently the veterans cheered the name of General Grant, and announced their intention of pushing the completion of the proposed monument to the Union soldiers. What a rebuke to the Union soldiers, who have permitted their old chief's last resting place to remain unmarked for seven years.

Oregon will have to be reappointed by the legislature and some provision should be made so that each county would have a member of the house. Washington which leads Oregon in many respects, has such a law, and it appears to be a good one. It gives the little counties a chance. Otherwise many of them would be practically without representation.

Among the pithy sayings of a well-known German philosopher and reader occurs the following: "Sign no paper without reading it." In these days of petitions and remonstrances such a caution is doubly necessary. It is astonishing how many people there are, including good business men, who attach their signatures to papers or documents whose contents may have a serious bearing upon themselves or their affairs, with scarcely a glance at their contents. Carelessness in failing to acquaint themselves with the character of a paper before signing it has worked incalculable harm to thousands of well intentioned people. It is a good thing, therefore, to bear in mind continuously the above quotation, particularly with respect to such papers as express or imply anything in the nature of a contract or obligation.

NOTED AMERICANS.

JAY GOULD has purchased three salt plants in Kansas. ROBERT GARRETT, since his return to Baltimore, is reported to be "looking like himself again."

One interesting fact in connection with Cyrus Field's golden wedding was that the entire bridal party of 1840 was present.

SENATOR PLUMB on the stump begins speaking with his right hand stuffed deep down in his breeches pocket. The thumb of his left hand is stuck into the lower vest pocket.

J. S. BROWN, who was Garfield's private secretary, and who married Miss Mollie Garfield, has lately become private secretary to Secretary Rusk of the Agricultural Department.

SENATOR EVARTS said to a reporter the other day: "I think now that if I were standing where I was fifty-three years ago and journalism was what it now is, I should choose as the business of my life that of a journalist. I can see in it greater possibilities than are embraced in other professions."

SENATOR CARLILE, of Kentucky, and Thomas Carlyle, the great Scotch philosopher, are said to be from the same family, despite the dissimilarity in the spelling of the names. The members of the family are able to trace their lineage back to the days of good King Alfred—more than eleven hundred years.

MR. ROCKEFELLER, who has a very fine place on the Hudson, is now making an Italian garden, which is a new undertaking in this country, there being only one like it, and that is in Massachusetts. This will be filled with a variety of foreign plants, and in the summer season will be a place of great beauty.

MR. BLAINE is a great student of Napoleon Bonaparte. He has in his house in Washington a number of excellent engravings and etchings of the Corsican in the various stages of his meteoric career, but the picture of Napoleon as the youthful, alert, tigerish commander of the army of Italy is one that Mr. Blaine delights in showing his visitors.

THE INFANT TERRIBLE.

ROSENBERG—"Say, Johnny, did you ever have a private life at the theater last night?" Johnny—"Not but they had one after they got home."

ALGERSON—"Tommy, do you think your sister would marry me?" Tommy—"Yes. She'd marry almost anybody from what she said to me."

"Ma, has aunts got bees in her mouth?" "No; why do you ask?" "Cause Captain Jones caught hold of her, and said he was going to take honey from her lips; and she said: 'Well, make haste.'"

"Do you know what the dead languages are, Rufus?" asked the great orator. "Yep, Latin, Greek and English." "English?" "Yep, English is dead, too. Pa said you murdered it in your speech last night."

CHARLEY—"Won't you teach me all you know about whittling, Mr. Bobby?" Mr. Bobby—"Why, I don't know very much, Charley." Charley (positively)—"Oh, you must, because I heard pa say that you were always making pointed remarks."

DE GILLIE—"Bobby, did your mother make any derogatory remarks about my singing after I was gone the other night?" Bobby—"N-n-o, she didn't make any derogatory remarks." De Gillie—"I'm glad to hear that." Bobby—"But she nearly died laughing."

WILLIE's papa had a visitor who wore a very tall silk hat. Willie had never seen such a tall hat, and as they were going up the walk to the house he astonished the visitor and mortified his papa by exclaiming: "Say, mister, does your head go way to the top of that hat?"

ARCHITECT (displaying the plans)—"Here is the front elevation, with the outside window and circular gallery; this is the east elevation, showing oriel tower." Teddy (enormously interested in the new house)—"And where are the two mortgages pa said he was going to put on?"

FACTS ABOUT LIBRARIES.

THE Pomona (Cal.) public library has lost but one book in three years.

Over seven hundred boys and girls who drew books from the library of the College Settlement in Livingston street, New York, last year only two had American parents.

MRS. ISABEL POLAND RANKIN, daughter of the late Luke P. Poland, has given to the town of Morristown, Vt., one thousand dollars toward a library which is being established there.

THE records of the New Haven public library show that there were four thousand less books drawn last year than the year previous, the decrease being almost wholly in the field of fiction.

A SENSIBLE memorial will be that dedicated to Wilkie Collins. It will consist of a small library of choice fiction to be presented to the "People's Palace" in London. Fifteen hundred dollars has already been raised for this purpose.

SOME one has been interviewing a country book-seller in England with an extended business and learned from him that while the ladies are reading a more serious line of books, Arnold, Froese and Lang, the men are taking to novel-reading with a vengeance.

With the ensuing year the Imperial Library of St. Petersburg will begin publishing a catalogue of all the Russian books it contains which were issued from the press since the art of printing was introduced into Russia. The catalogue will be published in periodical installments, under the editorship of a learned commission.

THE fifty largest libraries in Germany possess about 12,700,000 volumes, against England with about 6,450,000 and North America with about 6,100,000 volumes. With each library is given, besides the number of volumes, the available amount for purchases, and other special features supplied for this purpose by the different librarians.

Presumption. Miss Bussey (on supplying her first kiss)—I'm surprised at your audacity, sir. Mr. Beace (giving her another)—I'm a little bit surprised at it myself, but I guess it's all right. Puck.

Recently a Question of Logic. Sunday-school Teacher—What is absolutely necessary to enable a man to get along well in this wicked world? Johnny—A rattling good pair of legs!

ODD ANCIENT CUSTOMS.

In the middle ages the lower animals were frequently tried, convicted and punished for various offenses.

In 1085, when the Protestant chapel at Rochelle was condemned to be demolished, the bell thereof was publicly whipped for having assisted heretics with its tongue.

Among the legends of the early Celtic saints nothing is more common than the story of the saint being sent to borrow fire and carrying it in his lap without the fire injuring his garment.

In ancient Greece a law of Pittacus enacted that "he who commits a crime when drunk shall receive a double punishment"—one for the crime itself and the other for the inebriety which prompted him to commit it.

In 1366 a pig was burned at Pontenax-Roses, near Paris, for having eaten a child. In 1386 a judge of Falaise condemned a sow to be mutilated and hanged for a similar offense. Three years later a horse was solemnly tried before the magistrate and condemned to death for having killed a man.

In the days of King Edgar the lives of criminals were sometimes spared on condition of devoting themselves to killing wolves, and periodically producing a given number of wolves' tongues. Several estates in what we now call the Midland counties, notably in Derbyshire, were held on this tenure.

In the fifteenth century it was believed that crows were intimately associated with witches, and were credited with laying accursed eggs, from which sprang winged serpents. In 1474, at Hain, a cock was publicly accused of having laid one of these dreadful eggs. He was tried, sentenced to death, and, together with the egg, was burned by the executioner in the market place.

RAILWAY NOTES.

THE railroad capital of the world is estimated at \$28,000,000,000.

THE five New England States have built so far this year 16 miles of railroad. North Carolina has built 230.

It costs on an average 3.17 cents to carry a passenger one mile in the United States, and the average length of his trip is 24.17 miles.

READING cars fitted out with the most popular periodicals and books will be attached to the passenger trains on the St. Petersburg-Warrenton railroad. Great care will be taken to have the cars properly lighted in the evening.

In England one person out of every 5,250,000 people carried is killed. In France one out of every 2,000,000 passengers is killed. In Belgium one out of every 9,000,000 is killed. In Prussia only one out of 21,300,000 is killed.

THE Pennsylvania Railroad company has awarded contracts for building an iron ferry-boat which, when completed, will be the largest and strongest ferry-boat afloat. The new vessel will be entirely of iron, except the joist work, and will be a double-decker, propelled by a screw at each end.

THE Imperial Council has sanctioned the plan of building the Siberian railroad. The work will begin immediately. The entire cost of the enterprise is estimated at about 400,000,000 rubles. The road will unite the interior of Siberia with the Pacific Ocean and will be very advantageous for strategic purposes.

INDUSTRIAL ADVANCEMENT.

DELIVER is talking about a \$3,000,000 ship canal.

THE pneumatic line between New York and Philadelphia is now considered an assured fact. It is expected that it will transport large packages between the two cities in less than twenty minutes.

OFFICIAL returns of the Canadian seal fishery show that 39,547 seals were taken the past season, an increase of 5,000 over last year. Of this number 2,381 were taken off the coast of British Columbia and 18,165 in Behring Sea.

THE mineral fields of Idaho are among the largest in the world, and since their discovery have produced \$157,830,662. The yield last year was as follows: Gold, \$2,304,500; silver, \$7,657,500; lead, \$6,400,000; copper, \$85,000.

THERE is a prune orchard of forty trees at Grangerville, Cal., which bore this year 28,300 pounds of fruit, an average of 700 pounds to the tree. One tree among the number produced 1,140 pounds. The fruit has sold in that locality this season for 9½ cents a pound.

THERE is a project to construct a ship canal across New Jersey from the Delaware river to the Atlantic. The scheme was first suggested by merchants of Philadelphia, who desire a shorter water route to New York and an abbreviation of the long haul of hundreds of miles down the bay and around Cape May to strike the ocean paths to Europe.

THE NOTE PAPER THEY USE.

MRS. HARRISON fluctuates between white and a pearl gray in her choice of note paper.

MRS. CLEVELAND invariably uses either a pure white or a pale gray paper for use in her correspondence.

MRS. ASTOR finds a white woven parchment finish more to her taste than any thing else for letter paper.

Mrs. MARQUESE de Lanza invariably uses a pale azure-lined paper with a small red crown in the left-hand corner.

Mrs. JAMES G. BLAINE's dinner card is a white card with tiny border of silver and a small "B" in silver at the top.

Mrs. AUGUSTE BELMONT's dinner cards are of plain white cardboard, book-shaped, with the Belmont crest in colors on the outside corner.

Mrs. LEVI P. MORTON has for years used a smooth linen note paper in pure white, with her monogram "H. M." in dark blue at the top of the page.

Mrs. CHARLES COMBS is an ardent admirer of rose color, and every variety of note paper or cards in her quaint writing-desk bears a faint tinge of old rose color.

PRETTY MABEL WHITE was formerly very fond of heavy white cloth note paper, but since she has become Mrs. Ferdinand Yanga she uses cream linen paper with Edgell's court in fine red lettering.

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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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