

LOCAL HISTORY.

Mr. G. W. Houston has furnished us with a copy of the "City Journal," Col. R. H. J. Comer's paper, printed here in 1863, from which we copy the history incident to the discovery of gold on the creek and the early work of town building.

That portion known as the Canyon creek or John Day mining district was found to be a gold field on the 9th of June, 1862, by a company of prospectors from Yreka, on what is now known as Whiskey Flat, half a mile above Canyon City; on the same day gold was discovered on Little Pine creek, two miles east, and on the following day gold prospects were found on Rich and Windless gulches, opening one of the most extensive and richest mining camps in Eastern Oregon. The parties who struck the diggings, being about out of the necessities of life, went to Auburn, where they reported their discovery of new diggings, which caused a rush of about 500 persons to this place, and they meeting the gold-seekers from California to Powder river made, within ten days from the first discovery of gold, a population of over 1000 miners. But the claims on the creek being deep with a great deal of water to contend with, and the gulches in which prospects were first found being dry gulches, the most of those who first discovered the place left without receiving any of the benefits derived therefrom. Canyon creek took its name from a canyon through which it flows, in a northerly direction, into the John Day river; and this city took its name from the above named creek, on which it is located, a short distance below the mouth of the canyon and two miles above its confluence with the John Day river; and was laid out by Messrs. Mulkey, Cooper and others on the 20th of July, 1862.

The first building was the express office of Brents & Nelson, put up about the 4th of July, 1862. A whiskey shop was started on Whiskey Flat, on the 15th of June, in a tent; and about the 20th Powers, Shuman & Wadleigh came in with a pack-train loaded with whiskey, tobacco and groceries. In a short time after, Cozart, Luce & Stone arrived from the Dalles, with a pack-train loaded with groceries and provisions and started the first store in the city, in a canvas house. The first restaurant was opened by the Mrs. Coopers; and during July and August of the same year, several new stores and some ten or twelve saloons commenced operations.

The first claims opened were on Little Pine creek; the second near Whiskey Flat, both of which were worked with rockers. In August Brown & Co., built a small saw-mill on Pine creek, which proved a failure; most of the lumber used was cut by whip-saws. The Humboldt company were the first to use sluices, to which they attached a long-tong, in Juniper gulch. The first ditch was the Bissell creek ditch, dug to convey the waters of Bissell and Pine creeks to Rich gulch, on which gulch the town of Marysville was built during July and August, 1862. The first claims opened on Canyon creek were the Trenton and the Richardson, in the fall of 1862, and the Never-Sweet early in the spring of 1863—all of which proved rich.

The first death was a man whose name has escaped our memory, on Pine creek, who died of consumption; the second, James K. Knox killed by W. Blevins on the 23d of November, 1862, at which time our too well-filled graveyard was picked out and dedicated. Berry Way was the first man hung, which took place on June 4th, 1863, after a jury trial by the miners, for the murder of J. Gallagher, near Antelope valley, on the Dalles trail.

Trowbridge & Co. located the first ranch on the 16th of July, 1862, and is still owned by a part of the same firm, and is situated opposite the mouth of the creek, in the John Day valley.

The Dalles road was opened

in 1864, previous to which time all supplies were transported to this city by pack-trains.

About the 1st of July, 1862, there arrived from California a train, consisting of thirty-two wagons, one hundred and five men, fourteen women and several children, which added to the permanent population of the district—many who came at that time are still to be seen on our streets.

The first persons joined together in the holy bonds of wedlock were Mr. Jas. Adams to Miss Jennett Hunter.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 20. **EDITOR GRANT CO. NEWS:**—Mr. Blaine is very much on top this week, and his followers are talking him up as the "biggest" man in the administration at a greater rate than ever, and the fact seems to be entirely forgotten that Mr. Blaine is a subordinate officer, and that he could not have accomplished the things for which he is being so highly praised without the consent of his superior officer, Mr. Harrison. It was a positive relief to many of Mr. Blaine's friends when the official proclamation of the president of Brazil, opening the ports of that country on and after April 1st, for the free entry of the articles mentioned in the reciprocity treaty with the United States, reached here and was made public, for there is no denying the fact that they had allowed themselves to be partially stampeded by the persistent circulation of rumors of the treaty having been rejected by the Brazilian government.

Probably one of the proudest moments of Mr. Blaine's life was when Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British minister, called on him and presented a copy of the dispatch from Lord Salisbury, the British foreign minister, accepting his proposition made last December, to submit the disputed questions concerning the Behring sea seal fisheries to peaceful arbitration, on the lines laid down by Mr. Blaine. Nobody knows better than the secretary of state that had this dispute led to a war with Great Britain, he would have been held personally responsible for it by many people, who believed honestly that he intended, when he accepted a position in the cabinet, to bring about a war with that country to serve his own purposes; and the possession of that knowledge undoubtedly added largely to his satisfaction in knowing that he has brought about a peaceable settlement of this long continued dispute, and to a lesser degree this solution of the matter is a great satisfaction to many people who have been fearful that it would end in war.

Senator Peffer and a number of alliance representatives, including the irrepressible Jerry Simpson, have devoted the greater part of this week to alliance missionary work in the adjoining state of Maryland, and one of them informs me that there is every indication of the alliance being able to elect a majority of the next legislature this fall, and a successor to Senator Gorman, who in spite of his great popularity with the democratic party at large, has many enemies in the party ranks in his own state, who stand ready and willing to join the alliance in defeating him.

An eminent member of the farmers' alliance today expressed himself in very strong language against what he called the "sell out" of the two farmers in the Illinois legislature, which resulted in the election of Gen. Palmer to the United States senate, when it was possible to have elected one of their own men. "I have nothing against Gen. Palmer," he said, "but I am in favor of electing a man who belongs to a farmers organization every time the opportunity presents itself to do so, and I consider that in this case an opportunity was either deliberately thrown away or sold, I am not yet certain which, but I intend to be."

Morrison and Carlisle or Carlisle and Morrison is heard quite often among the anti-Cleveland democrats here. The trouble about either of these tickets is the doubt as to whether either of the gentlemen would accept the second place on the ticket. One of Mr. Morrison's

close personal friends is responsible for the statement that he could have had the second place on the Cleveland ticket in '88 had he been disposed to take it.

There seems to be considerable uncertainty about when Mr. Harrison will appoint the nine judges of the United States circuit court, provided for in the new law. It was stated early this week upon what seemed good authority that he had decided not to appoint them until next December, but there is a disposition to believe that this statement was made in order to keep off the horns of persistent office-seekers, including a number of republican ex-representatives. Mr. Harrison is now away, but he is expected to return tomorrow. If he proposes making these appointments soon he will probably do so before leaving on his proposed trip to the Pacific coast, upon which he will start within the next three or four weeks.

Senator Kyle took a prominent part in a religious revival meeting here the other night. Henry George passed through Washington this week. He has just returned from the Bermudas, where he spent the winter in search of health. He said that his physician would not allow him to work and that he was not prepared to talk on current events further than to express his belief that from this time on political battles will be fought solely upon economic issues.

APPLICATION OF ELECTRICITY.—The rapid strides which of late have been made in the practical application of electricity have prepared the way, in the public mind, for the ready acceptance of almost any new and striking proposal. In the popular belief the use of electricity in curing the ill of the flesh, is an accomplished fact. To prove the assertion, Dr. Darrin gives the following names of people who are willing to vouch for it, as they have been cured of various ailments.

Miss Nettie Keown, Hotel Portland, rheumatism so she could not raise her arm to her head, cured. A. L. Richardson, 320 Front st., Portland, deafness 20 years and ringing noises in the head, restored.

W. L. Cone, Bay City, Tillamook county, Oregon, kidney and liver trouble, cured. Andrew Douglas, 85 Oak street, Portland, deafness, cured. Lee McGrew, 145 G street, Portland, nervous debility and kidney complaint, restored.

D. E. Halloway, Newberg, Or., inflammation neck of bladder and kidney troubles, cured. W. Hays, 214 5th street, East Portland, Or., inflammation neck of bladder and sciatic rheumatism, came on crutches to the Doctor, cured and left crutches at the Doctor's office.

E. D. Pierce, Albina, Or., deafness 15 years, cured. J. S. Jennings, Sellwood, Or., eczema or skin disease, 15 years, cured. J. M. Miller, Hubbard, Oregon, deafness, cured in 8 minutes.

James Daily, New York hotel, deafness, 15 years, cured. Mrs. H. J. Miller, cor. 5th and Alder streets, East Portland, general debility, cured and gained eight pounds.

Mrs. A. C. Landis, 805 West st., Seattle, cured of a scrofulous sore on leg twenty years ago by Dr. Darrin.

W. F. Hubbard, superintendent of the U. S. fish commission, Clackamas, Or., mouth or liver spots over his person, cured.

Thomas Buff, Mocksberg, dizziness, kidney and liver complaint, restored. Dr. Darrin treats all curable chronic, acute and private diseases, blood taints, lost or failing manhood, nervous debility, effects of errors, or excesses in old or young, loss of memory, diseases caused by mercury in the improper treatment of private diseases. Office 704 Washington st., Portland, Oregon. Hours 9 a. m. to 8 p. m. daily. Examination free and confidential, question blanks and circulars sent gratis to any address. Patients cured at home.

ESTRAY NOTICE.—Any person having lost two horses of the following description can learn of the whereabouts of the same by calling at the GRANT COUNTY NEWS office and paying for this notice (and one year's subscription for the paper.) One black saddle horse about 7 years old, weight about 950 pounds, had bell on last summer. One bay saddle horse, weight about 900 pounds, has a very large horse shoe brand six inches long and deeply burnt as if made with a common horse shoe, on left side.

SOME REMARKABLE BIRDS.

THE raven has been taught to retrieve most creditably.

The beautiful swallow-tailed kite has accomplished the feat of flying across the whole Atlantic ocean.

The organs of smell in the turkey, vulture and carrion crow are so delicate that they can scent their food for a distance of forty miles.

The best speed of a railway train is only a little more than half the velocity of the golden eagle, the flight of which often attains to the rate of 140 miles an hour.

On all birds, the condor mounts highest into the atmosphere. Humboldt describes the flight of this bird in the Andes to be at least 20,000 feet above the level of the sea.

The Duke of Beaufort, upon one occasion picked up a brace of grouse which had canoned and killed each other in mid-air, and colliding is not an infrequent accident.

Swifts and swallows fly every year from England to Southern Africa and to the Moluccas, and the restless, wandering flight of various oceanic birds is still more surprising.

The way of an eagle in the air is one of those things of which Solomon expressed himself ignorant, and there is something truly marvellous in the mechanism which controls the scythe-like sweep of wing peculiar to most birds of prey.

From one occasion a falcon was observed to cut a snipe right in two, with such strength and speed did it cut down its prey. Sparrowhawks and merlins have not infrequently been known to crash through thick plate glass windows when in pursuit of prey or caged birds.

The enormous appetite of the giant penguin (which weighs about eighty pounds) may have something to do with its restricted powers of flight, and in the stomach of one of these were found ten pounds of granite, and trap-door-moths, swallowed most likely to promote digestion.

The American passenger pigeon compasses the whole Atlantic ocean. The speed of its flight is approximately known, and it is able to cover 1,600 miles in twenty-four hours. This, in itself, is marvellous when it is seen that, flying at the rate of nearly seventy miles an hour, it takes the bird two days and nights to cross.

STRANGE FOREIGN PRACTICES.—When a person wishes to leave a Japanese theater temporarily he is not given a pass-book, as in this country. The door-keeper takes the person by the hand and stamps on it the stamp of the establishment.

In Switzerland, it is said, they will pay higher wages to a milkmaid who can sing to the cows than to one who can not. This is done on the principle that had treatment of a cow injuriously affects its milk.

The form of oath binding on the Mohammedan conscience is to make the Koran rest on the head while the oath is administered. But if the Koran is skillfully held just above the head the form is not valid and the oath not binding.

The favorite food of the Sandwich Islanders is the flesh of the Mexican hairless dog. It is said to taste like spring chicken and is considered a great dainty. These dogs are raised in large numbers and fattened for the market.

All over the city of Berlin, are what are called "milkers" or milk stations. In the basement of an elegant block of buildings a few cows are kept. These are well fed and cared for and furnish elegant milk for the patrons in the neighborhood.

The Spaniards have great regard for odd numbers, and insist on having an odd number of windows, doors and rooms in their houses and temples. There must be an odd number of steps in the stairs and an odd number of feet in the height of all steeples and minarets.

Any vessel causing a disaster at her launch is regarded by the Japanese as doomed to ill-fortune for her whole career. At Osaka lately a vessel capsize while being launched, several persons being drowned. She was destroyed by night with much ceremony.

It is Paris it is not customary for patients to wait in the ante-chamber of great physicians, but inquiry has to be made by letters, which are rarely answered unless they come from some aristocratic quarter of the city. In some cases, however, numbered tickets are given out at six in the morning.

BEFORE 1800.

In 1745 not a house in Maine had a pane of glass in it.

PENNSYLVANIA established the first hospital in America in 1751.

OLIVER CROMWELL's body had been sold by auction for fifty guineas.

A BANK known as the United States Bank was established at Philadelphia in 1791, together with the National mint, which issued its first coin in 1792.

The first book of any kind published in Philadelphia was Atkin's Almanac for the year 1800. It was an unpaginated pamphlet of twenty pages, only two copies of which are now known to exist, each being worth more than its weight in twenty-dollar notes.

SHOWN away in one of the rooms at the Capitol in Montpelier, Vt., are the remains of the first printing press brought to this country. Upon it was printed the freeman's oath for Massachusetts, the first thing printed in British North America.

A RESIDENT of Richmond, Va., has come into possession of a revolutionary relic in the shape of General Daniel Morgan's mess-chest, which is estimated as being one hundred and twenty-five years old. The chest is made of pine, heavily ribbed, with iron, and is closed by an old-time ponderous lock.

AMERICA'S FAIR DAUGHTERS.

It is said that Miss Lettier, who is to marry Sir Charles Hall, will receive from her father a dowry worth \$500,000 a year.

Mrs. FRANK LESLIE in full dress wears the diamond decoration, "El Danto del Libertador," given her by Venezuela.

Away off in an obscure part of Texas, near Hempstead, lives Elizabeth Ney, a grand-niece of the famous Marshal Ney, of France. She is both pretty and talented and a sculptress by profession.

Mrs. HENRY WARD BEECHER has much improved in health of late. At a recent church social she poured the tea with her old-time grace, and received many congratulations on regaining her strength.

The wife of Speaker Reed is described as a perfect type of the New England matron. "She has a face that beams with intelligence and motherly sweetness." Although not very fond of society, she strictly observes her exacting social duties.

Mrs. WILLIAM K. VANDERBILT owns a magnificent pearl necklace which belonged to the Empress Eugenie and is supposed to be worth \$200,000. It is a single row of about forty inches, which she throws around and around her neck until it falls in successive rows to her waist. The average necklace is about fourteen inches.

Mrs. CLEVELAND is especially fond of gems, and has a large collection. The unmounted stones are systematically arranged in small inlaid cabinets, carefully numbered, and the owner has a memorandum in which the time and the place of purchase, as well as the value of each, are recorded. Her collection is now said to be worth over \$50,000.

Mrs. H. C. L. Larkins the personal magnetism which her husband has in such a striking degree, and does not know how to make her callers always at home. The stiff bearing which she has at times comes largely from diffidence and from the unfavorable criticisms which she has received. She is a woman of strong domestic tastes, and she has a wonderful talent for making "the home beautiful."

Mrs. LOGAN bore away as a souvenir of her visit to Whittier a volume of his poems with the following dedicatory tribute: "What shall I say to her who by the side of my Logan walked in love and pride? Whose faith and courage gave a double power to the strong arm of Freedom's diadem? Whose that her name with his shall always stand? Honored alike throughout a grateful land." JOHN H. WHITTIER.

Amherst, Mass., Sept. 17, 1890.

TOLD IN FIGURES.

ONLY one person in 8,000 dies of old age.

THERE are 40,000 night watchmen in the United States besides night police.

PATENT medicines have paid to the British Government, during the present year, \$1,100,000 in the shape of duties and taxes.

SIXTY years ago the aggregate wealth of the United States was less than \$1,000,000,000; at present it is estimated at \$55,200,000,000.

The wings of a fly are used with great quickness and probably six hundred strokes are made per second. This would carry the fly about twenty-five feet, but a seven-fold velocity can easily be attained, making one hundred and seventy-five feet per second, so that under certain circumstances it can outstrip a race horse.

In our paste, the milk of a codfish, or even in water in which vegetables have been infused the microscope discovers animalcules so small that millions of them would not equal the size of a grain of wheat. And yet nature, with a singular prodigality, has supplied many of these with organs as complete as those of a whale or an elephant.

The thread of the silk worm is so small that an average of forty-two of them are twisted together to form a thread of common sewing silk; that of the spider is many diameters smaller.

Two drams of spider web by weight would stretch into a straight line, reach from London, England, to Edinburgh, Scotland, a distance of over 400 miles.

PLATINUM and silver can each be drawn into wire many times smaller than a human hair. The former metal has been drawn into wire so fine that twenty-seven of them twisted together could have been inserted into the hollow of a hair; that is, if a human being or a human-made machine could be found minute and precise enough for such a delicate undertaking.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH.

AN Egyptian sythe recently unearthed is exhibited among the antiquities in the private museum of Flinders Petrie in London. The shaft of the instrument is wood, supporting a row of flint saws, which are securely cemented into it.

TWO MONUMENTS of the prehistoric period have been discovered on the isthmus of Corinth by Mr. P. Kastronemes, who thinks they are the tombs of Sisyphus and Neleus mentioned by the traveler Pausanias when describing the country subject to the rule of that town.

The authorities of the Louvre are talking of buying in a collection of Carthaginian antiquities. The collection includes fifteen heads of gods and Roman Emperors, thirty Greek and Latin inscriptions and fifty-two pillars bearing words or phrases in the Punic language.

MR. W. J. STILLMAN warns collectors of Greek vases that a Greek dealer in antiquities is buying up the vases that have been found in Italy, at Nola, and other sites of Græco-Italian cities. He fears that they will be sold from Athens as the product of excavations in old Greece.

What does "free coinage" mean?

It means briefly and simply this: Any owner of silver or gold bullion may deposit the same in any mint of the United States, to be formed into standard dollars, or bars, for his benefit and that without a charge, except that a deposit of less value than \$100, or metal too base for coining may be refused. Those are the exact words of the law, and they mean that for every eighty-two and one-half cents worth of silver bullion the owner thereof can receive therefor a stamped coin, known as our silver dollar. In other words it means that the amount of silver bullion which would sell in the market for \$1000, the United States will coin into silver dollars, without charge, and give the owner of the bullion about \$1300, in silver dollars.

The people of Arizona are not in a mood to temporize with savages. A bill was recently introduced in the legislature of that territory declaring the Indians who left the San Carlos agency with arms in their possession outlaws, and offering a reward of \$500 for each Indian killed, upon whom, at the corner's inquest, arms should be found. If the government cannot disarm these savages, or neglects to do so, and withdraws its troops, as it has done from the military post in Southern Arizona, there is but one thing left for settlers to do, and that is to defend themselves. It appears, moreover, from the spirit shown by the introduction of this bill, that they are in exactly the right temper to do this, and propose to choose their own methods.

Be Sure

If you have made up your mind to buy Hood's Sarsaparilla do not be induced to take any other. Hood's Sarsaparilla is a peculiar medicine, possessing by virtue of its peculiar combination, proportion, and preparation, curative power superior to any other article. A Boston lady who knew what she wanted, and whose example is worthy imitation, tells her experience below:

To Get

"In one store where I went to buy Hood's Sarsaparilla the clerk tried to induce me to buy their own instead of Hood's; he told me their's would last longer; that I might take it on ten days' trial, that if I did not like it I need not pay anything, etc. But he could not prevail on me to change. I told him I knew what Hood's Sarsaparilla was. I had taken it, was satisfied with it, and did not want any other."

Hood's

When I began taking Hood's Sarsaparilla I was feeling real miserable, suffering a great deal with dyspepsia, and so weak that at times I could hardly stand. I looked, and had for some time, like a person in consumption. Hood's Sarsaparilla did me so much good that I wonder at myself sometimes, and my friends frequently speak of it." MISS ELLA A. GORE, of Terrace Street, Boston.

Sarsaparilla

Sold by all druggists. \$1.00 per bottle. Prepared only by C. I. HOOD & Co., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass. 100 Doses One Dollar

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE.

Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of an order of the County Court of the State of Oregon for Grant County duly made and entered on the 2nd day of March A. D. 1891, in the matter of the estate of E. W. Aldrich, deceased, the undersigned administrator de bonis non of said estate, will on Saturday, the 14th day of April, 1891, at 2 o'clock p. m., at the court house room in the town of Canyon City, Grant County, State of Oregon, offer for sale and sell at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash in hand, all the following real property of said estate, the same being situate in the town of John Day, Grant County, Oregon, to wit: A portion of the NE 1/4 of NW 1/4 of Section 26, Tp 13, S. R. 31, E. W. M., and bounded as follows: Commencing at the south east corner of the lot now owned by W. H. Johnson in said John Day city and running thence south to the south line of said NE 1/4 of NW 1/4 of Section 26, Tp 13, S. R. 31, E. W. M., thence west to the west line of said NE 1/4 NW 1/4 of said Section 26, thence north on said line to a point due west of the north-west corner of said W. H. Johnson's said lot, thence east to the north-west corner of said W. H. Johnson's lot; thence south to the south west corner of said W. H. Johnson's lot; and thence east to the place of beginning, together with all and singular the covenants hereditaments and appurtenances thereto belonging or in anywise appertaining, and all the right, title and interest that said deceased had in his death, and that said estate now has therein or thereto.

Dated this 17th day of March, 1891.

E. F. ALDRICH,

Administrator de bonis non of the estate of E. W. Aldrich, deceased.

