The Paper for the Stockman, Merchant and Miner.

THE GRANT COUNTY NEWS.

The Paper for the Farm, the Workshop and the Home.

Volume XIII. *CANYON CITY, GRANT COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, JULY 16, 1891.* *Number 17.*

The Outlook.

The outlook for Dalles City and the country tributary to it was never brighter than it is at this moment. The heavy rain fall has fully insured a large grain and hay crop. Fruits of all kinds are abundant and bring fair and profitable returns. The wool crop is simply immense and the small per centage of loss during the past winter insures profitable returns from the clippings at moderate prices. Mutton sheep bring better prices than we have ever known them to do in a residence of sixteen years in Eastern Oregon. The price of beef is tending upward and the long depression in this class of industry seems at an end. The prospects for good prices for cereals have not been so bright for many years, and with an abundant crop assured the farming classes may confidently look forward to a profitable and prosperous harvest. As an element in this prosperity our connections with Portland and Astoria by an independent line of steamers will cut no unimportant figure. Everything possible will be done to make this line available for the removal of the coming crops and we have little reason to doubt that the effort will be successful. Every cent saved by reduced rates will enhance the value of the product and go into the pockets of the producer. Besides all this we are given every reason to hope that before many months shall have passed The Dalles will have connection with the interior by one or more lines of railroad. As our readers are aware a company has been incorporated within the past few days to build the line, via Dufur and Tygh valley, to the Fossil coal fields. Only those familiar with the immense resources of the country through which this line will traverse can have any idea of the benefit such a road will be to the settlers as well as to this city. Another company has been incorporated to build a road between The Dalles and some point in Sherman county. It can only be a question of time when this road also will be an accomplished fact. The needs of the country demand it and there is not a shadow of a doubt as to its being a paying investment. With these lines of railroad terminating at this point, The Dalles will at once take rank as the most important city in Eastern Oregon and this rank she will be able to maintain against all competitors. Cheap methods of transportation will invite capital and capital will develop industries yet unborn or in their infancy, while the thousands of acres of cheap and productive lands will form homes for a happy, contented and prosperous people.—Dalles Chronicle.

America's Discovery.

Nearly every state in the Union is making elaborate and expensive preparations to celebrate the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America by Columbus. But we notice that the Norwegians of Massachusetts have in their quiet way celebrated the thousandth anniversary of the same discovery by Leif Erikson. Historically it is well established that Columbus must have learned the existence of the western continent from the Norsemen whom he met on a previous voyage to that of his great discovery. This fact has led many to the reflection that it would have been infinitely better for the world and for America had Columbus never sailed across the Atlantic ocean. Approaching five hundred years before the Genoese planted the Spanish flag in America the people of Norway had established settlements in Vinlaud, New Jersey, and buildings still remain standing on the coast of what is now a part of Massachusetts. Connecticut and Rhode Island, as monuments of the former occupancy of the Norsemen. The Sagas describing the discovery of Vinland is accepted by men of learning as a genuine, authentic and irrefutable history of events. It is not hard to understand how different would have been the record of the spread of European civilization on this continent had the Norsemen been left to pursue their discoveries, "and the nations of northern, instead of those of southern Europe taken possession of it." But perhaps this is going a little too deep into the region of might-have-been. Be this as it may, the Norwegians have a right to celebrate the first discovery of America by their countrymen.—The West.

Seattle, Washington, is said to have 2000 idle laborers starving around the streets, with no prospects of work.

Railroads and Mines.

Salt Lake Tribune: Speaking of the railroad out into the desert, an Eastern man the other day said: "What could that country supply to get railroad revenues enough to support its fixed charges and its interest to say nothing of dividends? You say it would give you the trade of Nevada and its 400,000 or 500,000 people and would add 250,000 more people to be supplied. What is 750,000 people compared to 50,000,000?"

The answer was that 200 miles of railroad would put in direct connection with this city twenty mining districts and that one good mine gives more business to a railroad than half a dozen townships of good agricultural land. The man could not understand it. Then he was asked to state how much freight an ordinary farmer in New York with 100 acres of land really gave to the railroad in a year. He was compelled to say that if it was in the wheat regions of New York the man might possibly have for sale at the end of the year a matter of 600 bushels of wheat which would be sent away on the road. That means eighteen tons of freight. Two tons more would cover everything that the man would buy. That is twenty tons. That would be 80 tons for a mile square, it would be 2880 tons for a township, and they do not average that.

Now, if a mine produced but twenty tons of ore per day for 300 days in the year, it would be 6000 tons. That would exceed the whole the whole freighting product of two townships in a favorable district, and west of here there are plenty of mines that would each easily yield three, four and even ten times twenty tons per day.

Then, there is another feature about it. The miner in his daily work uses of what merchants sell three times as much as any ordinary laborer in the East. Then he earns better wages and he spends them all. Then he has to have picks, gads, drills, powder, fuse, candles, shovels, heavy boots and cars and timbers—there is no end to his daily consumption.

So we see that if in these twenty districts there could be but one mine in each district that would yield twenty tons of ore per day to be transported on the railroad, those twenty districts would be equal to fifty townships of the best agricultural lands of the East. And we can see that 20,000 miners working in those districts would have to have more supplies carried to them than a hundred thousand people have to have supplied them in the East.

Not only would they have to have the materials to work upon but every pound of their food would have to be carried to them. Actual experience has established, to the wonderment of railroad builders, that one good mining district is to the railroad a little providence. And we saw last year that the Union Pacific railroad, crippled as it was for want of cars and engines, notwithstanding its crippled condition, drew a revenue from the Tuscarora mines, the mines of a single district seventy miles below here, which was equal to $100,000 a mile for every one of those seventy miles. And by these figures we get a little idea of how much more important mining is than any other industry that man can follow. It not only when the mining is gold and silver mining, produces more freight than any other occupation, but what it produces enters at once into the volume of money of the country, that much labor is. Through the material produced made immortal. And so in a double way the industry is a blessing, a blessing to the transportation companies that haul the the proceeds and a blessing to the world.

The food situation is becoming a grave one in Germany, and the continued rise in prices of grain is causing suffering among the poor. The failure of the government to act promptly in reducing duties for the popular benefit is causing deep and widespread irritation.

Extraordinary stories are being told about the plague of locusts in Northern Africa. One correspondent writes that caravans have nearly been overcome by the myriads of the insects and have been compelled to dig their way out and through them to escape suffocation. The country over which their armies pass looks as if blasted by a conflagration. Not a living thing remains in their track. The earth is swept clean of all except skeletons. Never were the pests so voracious and ferocious as during the present season, and in numbers they have exceeded all recorded accounts.

The Harney Peak Consolidated Tin Company at Hill City, S. D., have decided to commence the erection of a tin concentrating plant of 2500 daily capacity.

A constable at Eads, Colo., held a railroad train for three hours Saturday night, on a writ of attachment for wages due an employe. It was finally paid, after considerable telegraphing.

The interior department has rendered a verdict in favor of the state in the contested land case against J. M. Wiley of Warner valley, and that gentleman will lose the valuable improvements which he has placed on the land in controversy. This swamp-land question seems interminable.

It is said that a careful estimate has been made of the amount of money in circulation in the Argentine Republic and it is found to reach a total of $17.50 per capita. In spite of that fact nine out of every ten men are in a chronic state of bankruptcy, and this condition exists in spite of the fact that the government printed the money and issued it "directly to the people."

Prof. Foster, the weather prophet, predicts good weather for July, but says we will have a few short periods of exceedingly hot weather during that month. He says, however, that August and September will be the hot months of the year, and that deaths will have their principal effect in August. October, November and December will average very cool, and the greatest storms of the year will occur in those months. The reader is not compelled to believe these prophesies unless he really wants to.

Years ago a young man named Walter went for a soldier. The girl he loved best told him she would marry him when he got to be a colonel. He never attained that distinction, but he got into jail at Fort Keog for falling asleep while on guard duty. There he ate black bread and drank black coffee and slept on a cot that would have broken the back of anybody but a soldier. He was discharged last week, and their learned some good news. It was that a rich aunt had died and left him $[illegible]. Like a true man of health he fell asleep, he slept over a fortnight, and hurried up to find a sweetheart of long ago, who has agreed to marry him even if he is not a colonel. And he has been in jail.

Legitimate sport is not killed by the growing pressure when a party of civilized men will flock in great numbers to witness a fight between a bulldog and a young cougar bear. An encounter of this sort afforded Sabbath amusement yesterday to a number of so-called sporting men of Tacoma and Seattle, and strange to say, they all regarded the affair as rare pastime. Prize fighting, cocking mains, bull encounters and live pigeon shooting are brutal enough in their way, but the latest combination of bulldog and bear surpasses in moderating of an ordinary mortal. The "sporting men" who attended the affair will of course resent any slur by that there was not an element of humanity connected with it. In order to deny any assertion of this kind, they very considerately placed mittens on the bear's claws to keep him from tearing the dog to pieces too early in the fight. What a nuisance!—Oregonian.

In promulgating your esoteric cogitations, or stimulating your superficial sentimentalities and amicable philosophical or psychological observations, says one of our effusive contemporaries, beware of platitudinous prolixity; let your conversational communications possess a clarified conciseness, a compacted comprehensibleness, evanescent consistency and a concatenated cogency. Eschew all conglomerations of flatulent garrulity, jejune babblement, and asinine affectations. Let your contemporaneous discantings and unpremeditated expatiations have intelligibility and veracious vivacity, without rhodomontade or thrasonical bombast. Sedulously avoid all polysyllabic profundity, pompous prolixity, pestiferous vacuity, ventriloquial verbosity, and vaticinal vapidity. Shun double entendres, prurient jocosity, and pestiferous profanity, obscurant or apparent. In other words, speak plainly, briefly, and naturally. Say what you mean and mean what you say, and above all don't use big words.

COMPLICATED MARRIAGES.

The Two Nuptial Ceremonies Which Are Necessary in France.

In the higher French classes the custom is that the civil or legal marriage should be celebrated by a mayor or magistrate the day or two before the religious one, a condition which results in the same as does Civil Marriage in the religious ceremony which could from a Christian point of view. The young bride retains at her family or lodging the more half, and only starts for her wedding journey after the ceremony has taken place in a church, in a temple, or a Protestant place of worship, as a rather vague [illegible] says the New York Commercial Advertiser for it, which it runs, but for something happened. Some incident which would intervene between the two ceremonies to delay the second one, the husband and wife would be legally married without being so in fact. I know of such a case. On the night of the civil marriage the husband received a telegraphic dispatch calling him to his mother's bedside, who was dying and who lived in a foreign land and whom, since he had married, he had never seen at all. He left immediately for his mother's bedside, and remained by her bed until she died, and was afterwards kept at the place by business affairs resulting upon her death and which were of such a nature of importance to him. This lasted four months. His wife, who was a devout Catholic, would not have consented to anything in the world to go and join him until their marriage had been blessed by a priest. During this interval the husband in a month or two had formed friends, changed his mind in regard to marriage, and he had not the courage to write to the young girl to tell her of his change of heart. Some months after he married another, and the school friend of his wife, who had written a long letter to her, was the unfortunate bearer of the news. He delayed to do it, however, but the young girl, who was a complete invalid, had been complaining for some months, and she died from consumption. Dying, she confessed to her family her love for her husband, and the school friend, who had written the letter,