

THE GRANT COUNTY NEWS.

Thursday, Dec. 17.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

Note the change in Basche & Co's ad. Finest variety of Christmas presents at the Watchmakers.

Silk handkerchiefs at 75 cents and \$1 at Sol's Bros, Canyon City, Or.

There were certainly no printer's bills when that favorite hymn, "Jesus Paid it All," was written.

All persons indebted to H. Stansell, Canyon City, Oregon, will call and settle their accounts before January 1, 1892.

The horse stage line has changed to winter schedule, and the mail now goes this city in the afternoon of Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Young people are living in high anticipation of the amount of social pleasure to be derived during the holidays.

Another former Canyon City man has come into prominence. Henry Basche, of Portland, has been elected treasurer of the state board of health.

A three or four-year-old beef steer is only worth about \$20; a two-year-old hog, made into bacon, is worth about \$25. Again we say unto you, raise more swine.

So far as we have been able to learn no new cases of diphtheria have been developed down the river.

The Heppner house of the firm of Coblin & McFarland have shipped so far this season 125 carloads of wheat and their Arlington house has shipped about the same amount.

Honora Sloan has returned to his home on Elk Creek, to do assessment work on his numerous quartz locations during the winter.

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The Canyon City Rod & Gun Club received two pairs of Chinese pheasants from Wolfpack last week.

M. P. Hudson brought over a load of "fast freight" a few days ago, and returned to Baker loaded with Grant county fruit.

The mines of Eastern Oregon are attracting more attention of late than they have for the past five years.

Correspondents are cautioned to refrain from personalities calculated to wound the feelings of others.

The contractor who took the Izee mill route at a ruinously low figure, sublet the same at a loss to the second contractor.

A county that can boom and won't boom should be made to boom.

PRAIRIE CITY CLIPPINGS.

December 15, 1891. Special Correspondence to News: How do you like our winter!

At this date Mrs. Lee Ray is on the road to recovery.

L. I. Day and family have gone out in the country to visit relatives.

Have your resolutions ready for Jan. 1, 1892. Then see if you can't live up to them.

Mr. Armstrong, who has been under the Dr.'s care for two months, is reported better.

Mr. Taylor, who has been very sick with typhoid at Mrs. Riley's, is out on the street again.

Mr. Johnson, our genial blacksmith, has moved into the house vacated by H. Johnson on Bridge street.

Vint Hartley, who has been enjoying the ache and pain of rheumatism, is seen occasionally on our streets.

Mr. W. R. Fisk, our genial livary man has moved into his brother's house on Portland street, formerly occupied by Porter Bros.

Look here young folks of Grant county. A general dance will be given Thursday evening Dec. 24, 1891, at the Grange hall, tickets \$1.50. All are invited and a general good time is anticipated.

Bro. Whitmore, the organizer of the A. O. U. W. Lodge, has been successful in organizing a lodge in our city with twenty charter members.

Last week Hub Reporter mentioned the fact of the illness of Mrs. Mary E. Metzger. This week we are called upon to write the obituary.

The gloom of the realization of the fact that death is sure and is no respecter of persons, has again been verified in our midst.

Our mail carrier seems to have laid up for the winter, at least he hasn't shown himself at Lee for a couple of weeks.

Mr. Frank Dinton has accepted a position as cook preacher with H. Sommersville.

Mr. W. W. Bailey, one of the most prominent sheep men in the lower end of this valley, is building a large shed on his Pine creek ranch for the purpose of sheltering his sheep from the winter storms.

Our mail carrier seems to have laid up for the winter, at least he hasn't shown himself at Lee for a couple of weeks.

Mr. C. G. Guernsey, formerly with J. Durkheimer & Co., but now a salesman for the Singer Sewing Machine Co., was in this section lately selling machines.

In all probability the proudest and happiest man on the South Fork today is our old and esteemed friend W. D. Officer.

The postoffice store has just received an assortment of elegant Christmas cards.

Sale of land belonging to the Norman estate, next Saturday at the court house. Remember the time and place.

Mr. Jewett, of the stage line, informs us of the death of L. E. McKinney, of Burns, a few days ago.

Owing to an unavoidable delay the New Hotel will not be opened next Sunday, as was expected, but will be opened to the public on Sunday, December 27, 1891.

Messrs. Hough and Cooley, who came down to attend a C. A. R. meeting, called at our sanctum yesterday with Mr. McHaley, and warmed at our fire and "southerned" with us over Grant county's glorious future.

Vernon Lodge No. 43, R. of P. will give their first Annual Pythian ball on Friday, Christmas night, at their castle hall in John Day.

The news has not learned the result of the meetings that should have been held last Saturday for the purpose of settling the district fair question.

Last Monday evening Rev. Whitmore, assisted by Bros. Cozad and Hensley, of this city, installed the following officers of the new A. O. U. W. Lodge at Prairie City: P. M. W. M. Durkheimer; M. W. John Lawrence; Foreman, Robert Desford; Treasurer, Ralph Fisk; Recorder, R. B. McHaley; Financier, J. R. Johnson; Responder, Jas. Sullivan; Guide, Al Worley; L. G., J. McHard; O. G., A. J. Johnson; Trustees, W. B. Donaldson, J. L. Sullivan, Terry Kinzey. The new lodge starts in with twenty charter members.

According to the professed information and belief of a band of Kansas zealots, there is to be but a few days more of this little world we live in, for it will "come to an end," they say, precisely at 5 o'clock next Christmas day.

Hon. G. W. McHaley called at our office yesterday, and stated that he had been over to Long Creek on business connected with the district fair enterprise, and that a meeting was held there last Saturday.

Mr. I. G. Moon, of the John Day Miller Flouring mill, has appointed Mr. J. W. Powell collector of the bounty subscribed to that mill, and he will receipt for the same.

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I ZEE IDEAS.

Izee, Or., Dec. 15, 1891. Abe Cutting and Rob Officer are out on a trapping and hunting expedition.

Mr. C. W. Bonham has been quite sick for some days, but is now much better.

Mr. Thos. Brasfield had the misfortune to get a valuable horse crippled a few days ago, while hauling lumber for his new house.

Our worthy blacksmith, Mr. C. W. Bonham, has been kept very busy for the last week or two shoeing horses and repairing wagons.

Wearing calves seems to be the order of the day with our cattle men. We don't think a little hay would go amiss with some of the old cows.

Mr. Harvey Sommersville is over in the Strawberry valley buying cattle. Harvey seems to think that there is still money in the cattle business.

Mr. W. C. Atherton closed a very successful term of school here last week. Mr. Atherton though young in experience seems able to get things all right.

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

President Harrison transmitted his annual message to congress on the 9th, and while it contains much that is of no material consequence. However, it is an able state paper.

President Harrison first calls attention to reciprocal trade relations concluded with Brazil, Spain and Domingo, and of negotiations pending with other countries and hopes that before the close of the year for definite trade arrangements of great value will be concluded.

Concerning the question of boundary between the United States and foreign territory the president says: "I should have been glad to announce some favorable disposition of the boundary dispute between Great Britain and Venezuela, touching the western frontier of British Guiana, but the friendly efforts of the United States in that direction have thus far been unavailing."

The president is moderately firm in the Chilean affair, but it would have been more satisfactory if the Baltimore, at the time of the outrage in Valparaiso, had opened her ports and demanded immediate reparation.

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SLICK EAR HEARD FROM.

He Awakens at Last, and Replies to J. C. L. Izee, Oregon, Dec. 10, 1891.

We notice that in an article published in the Long Creek Eagle of Nov. 13th, that J. C. L. writing from John Day on the subject of sheep, asserts that the stockmen living on the South Fork are beginning to introduce sheep although a few years ago they were bitterly opposed to them.

In this Mr. J. C. L. is slightly mistaken, and his article misleading. The stockmen of this section are just as much opposed to sheep today as they were five years ago. True, there may be one or two parties living on the South Fork who want sheep, and why do these parties want them. For the simple reason that they own fine ranches on the outskirts of the valley, ranches that are surrounded by the finest range in Eastern Oregon, which each year is swept by thousands of foreign sheep—sheep from Crook county and sheep from Wasco. The owners of which, not content with overrunning the mountain summer range, must crowd upon their winter range, and even eat the grass from our very doors.

These are the sheep that the South Fork stockmen were opposed to five years ago, and they are just as much opposed to them today as they were then. Even you, Mr. J. C. L., not content with the grass around your John Day and Bear valley ranches, must crowd the South Fork range. You, like all other sheepmen whom we have met, seem to regard cattle as legitimate prey, and to crowd upon their range as a duty you owe to yourselves and to your country.

Why is it that cattle raising has ceased to be a paying industry with us? My dear Sir, it is because the sheepmen of the John Day country not content with having swept every blade of grass from the hills in their own vicinity and nearly so in Bear valley are crowding the South Fork range upon the one side, while Crook and Wasco sheepmen are sweeping it upon the other. Is it any wonder that we have been opposed to sheep or that we should still be opposed to them, or is it any wonder that some of us, should, fall by the wayside, and to save themselves should want sheep. But in regard to our wanting sheep Mr. J. C. L. is sadly mistaken. We have been doing very well as we are and would rather have any other stock before sheep, but like some of our neighbors may be forced to get them some time in the future to protect ourself. But to the sheepman who wants to come and locate among us by taking up a ranch or buying one, a man who wants to make his home and winter as well as summer his sheep here the people of the South Fork will extend every courtesy. We were not aware until we saw Mr. J. C. L.'s article that we had gained such wide notoriety. Slick Ear.

The administration of the pension bureau has been characterized during the year by great diligence. The total number of pensioners upon the roll on the 30th day of June, 1891, was 676,160. There were allowed during the fiscal year ending at that time 250,525 cases. Of this number 102,467 were allowed under the laws of June 27, 1890. The issuing of certificates has been proceeding at the rate of about 30,000 per month, about 75 percent of these being cash, under the new law. The commissioner expresses the opinion that he will be able to carefully adjudicate and allow 35,000 claims during the present fiscal year. The appropriation for the fiscal year of 1890-91 was \$127,685,793.82 and the amount expended was \$119,530,640.20, leaving an unexpended surplus of \$155,144.64.

It is a deplorable affair the massacre of the Italians in New Orleans and is an act that causes a blush of shame to mantle the cheek of every honest American. The present administration will use its utmost efforts to settle the matter amicably, and this should be done by all means.

The message follows the usual beaten track of these documents, and it is not in any way different from what might be expected from a republican president. In the future it may happen that these state papers will be so concise that citizens may spare the time to read them, but until this happens, people can only pay a casual, cursory glance at their contents.

It is interesting and to some, it will be surprising to know that during the year ending September 30, 1891, our imports of merchandise amounted to \$824,776,279, which was an increase of more than \$11,000,000 over the value of the imports of the corresponding months of the previous year when the imports of merchandise were large in anticipation of the tariff legislation then pending. The average annual value of the imports of merchandise for the ten years from 1881 to 1890 was \$692,189,722, and during the year ending September 30, 1891, this annual average was exceeded by \$132,586,557. The value of free imports during the twelve months ending September 30, 1891, was \$118,091,387, more than the value of free imports during the corresponding months of the preceding year, and there was during the same year a decrease of \$16,844,508 in the value of imports of dutiable merchandise. The percentage of merchandise admitted free of duty during the year to which I have referred is the first under the tariff, was 14.1%, while during the preceding twelve months under the old tariff its percentage was 17.7, an increase of 33.9 per cent.

The report of the secretary of the treasury shows that the total receipts of the government from all sources for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1891, were \$475,342,231.05, while the expenditures for the same period were \$421,254,479.46, leaving a surplus of \$54,087,751.59. The receipts of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1892, actual and estimated, are \$437,700,000, and the expenditures, \$400,000,000. Under the law of July 14, 1890, the secretary of the treasury has purchased since August 15, during the first year 48,393,145 ounces of silver bullion at an average cost of \$1.045 per ounce. The highest price paid during the year was \$1.2025 and the lowest was \$0.9625. In exchange for this silver bullion there have been issued \$5,957,496 of the treasury notes authorized by the act. The lowest price of silver reached during the fiscal year was \$0.9395, on April 22, 1891, but on November 1, the market price was only \$0.93, which would give to the silver dollar a bullion value of 74 cents. Before the influence of the prospective silver legislation was felt in the market, silver was worth in New York about 0.975 per ounce. The ablest advocates of free coinage in the last congress were most confident in their prediction that the purchase by the government required by the law would at once bring the price of silver to \$1.2025 per ounce, which would make the bullion value of a dollar 100 cents, and hold it there.

The king of Greece has made six million dollars in speculation on the London exchange.

The emperor of China is not devoted to the pleasures of the table, but is very fond of horses.

The German emperor is alleged to have requested his mother to submit a programme of her movements for his approval whenever she may wish to travel.

The emperor of China is anxious to visit the United States, and is said to be impatient because the Chinese minister in Washington urges him to wait until the world's fair.

All Mohammedan princes are baptized with water from the Jordan. A great porcelain jug of this water is kept in the shrine of the esate apothecary and after every baptism the water left in the jug is carefully returned to this receptacle.

The state bed of the last king of Prussia was made of Snyrna gold bull, embroidered in turquoises with verses from the Koran. Its supports were of silver gilt, beautifully chased, and profusely set with emeralds and jeweled medallions.

Chromostena can be boiled when used to prevent their stretching. An axe can be kept put with dried fruit as thickly as trees from worms.

Fruit baskets should be strapped in soap paper to keep well for a few days. A furniture can sometimes be made to look very well by a coat of varnish.

The grinding of door hinges may be prevented by applying a few drops of castor oil to the hinges a little soap.

Any article can be rubbed with a cloth dipped in sweet oil. All undesirable spots will disappear.

Want Some Potatoes?

I have 5000 lbs of good potatoes, for sale in any quantity, at 1 cent per pound, at the Horsley drug store, Canyon City.

George Ripley.

Porter Bro's have 100 tons of bran and shorts which will be sold at \$15 per ton.

Let every kindred, every tribe, on this terrestrial ball put down their dollars and subscribe and we'll receipt for all.

Mr. Granville Clark has fitted up rooms for a hospital in the Horsley building in this city, and is now prepared to receive patients, and furnish them quiet and comfortable apartments. His stock of drugs and medicines is also fresh and complete.

When you send away for goods remember the firm of Coblin & McFarland at Heppner. They not only guarantee you first class goods at lowest prices, but they pay mail or express charges on same in any stage office in Grant or Harney counties. See their new "ad" for further particulars.

Notice is hereby given that I will not be responsible for any debts contracted after this date by anyone but myself, except upon written order.

Canyon City, Or., Nov. 16, 1891. FRED WILKINSON.

ELKHORN HOTEL.

Canyon City, Or. M. J. Chambers, Prop'r.

This Restaurant has recently been opened, and will furnish Medicor Lodging at living rates.

A special feature about this house is that no Chinese cooks are employed in the kitchen. Give the Restaurant a trial. M. J. CHAMBERS, Proprietor.

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