

Oregon City, Oregon, Dec. 19, 1888.

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The Albany Democrat says he has essentially lessened their affection for the hair on top of a white man's head.

Abbot, of the State Rights Democrat, thinks 'the negro as a race incapable of using the ballot aright.'

The Republicans of this State and of the whole country will gladly learn that the movement to detect and expose the gigantic frauds whereby the vote of New York City was so monstrously falsified is being prosecuted with vigor and resolution.

It seems that Lower California has become the theater of the most calamitous visitations from not only earthquakes, but other forms of pestilence scarcely less terrifying.

The Copperhead press of Oregon begin to wince and wiggle very much because of the course pursued by their party in the last Legislature.

It is contended that Judge Deady, being a taxpayer in Portland, and therefore interested, had no rights to decide this case.

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ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

There is now a general desire to criticize the course adopted by our present Minister to England. The excitement of the Presidential election and the just and natural devotion of the press to that conflict, in some measure diverted the public mind from the discussion of the course pursued by him in the settlement of the Alabama claims.

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IMPORTANT LEGAL DECISION.

On Saturday, Judge Deady, of the U. S. District Court, announced his decision in the case of H. C. Coulson and wife vs. The City of Portland. This was a suit brought by the plaintiffs to enjoin the city authorities from issuing interest coupons to the West Side Railroad bonds, and from levying and collecting taxes upon the property of plaintiffs to pay such interest.

The decision is against the city and pronounces the ordinance providing for the payment of such interest, void by reason of being in conflict with provisions both of the State Constitution and the charter of the city. The opinion of the Court is too lengthy for our issue of to-day, but perhaps we shall publish it in a future number of our paper.

We have frequently referred to the illegality of such aid furnished to the West Side Railroad Company, and it is a matter of record that one of the members of the House, from Clackamas county, at the fourth biennial session of the Legislature, opposed the measure pledging the faith of the State to pay interest upon certain bonds of the company which was recognized by that body, for such purpose.

No doubt the interest that is felt by the people of Oregon on the general subject of lending the credit of the State, of counties and of municipal corporations to aid internal improvements, will cause the opinion of Judge Deady in the case of H. C. Coulson et ux. vs. The City of Portland, to receive very general attention.

The Evening Commercial, which, as the Herald says, may have been influenced by 'certain subsidized interests' in west side stocks, says that 'The parties interested will not accept the opinion of Judge Deady as a final determination of the case, involving the validity of the ordinance guaranteeing the interest on two hundred and fifty thousand dollars of the bonds of the west side railroad company.'

The city of Portland escaped prosecution for damages resulting from defective sidewalks a long time, but at length is mulcted in \$2,000. The Oregonian says: Some months ago, Mrs. O'Hara, while passing along one of our streets, stepped into a hole in the sidewalk and broke her leg; whereupon she and her husband brought suit for damages, alleging negligence on the part of the city; and the jury, after a few moments' absence from the court room, returned a verdict for 2,000 in favor of plaintiffs.

OREGON.

The Unionist is of the opinion that Congressmen will act upon the scriptural plan of doing good to them that hate you, if Oregon gets any favors at their hands. True, Oregon turned her back upon freedom, law, and justice, last June—and in November she sneakily took a stand against the progressive moral spirit of the age, renounced the idea that the Almighty has a hand in rearing the temple of our liberties—but there are men here, who, as true as the compass needle, will yet lead the unshaven Ka Klux into the light of the new day, and we trust that Congress will not refuse us a shoulder to the wheel on account of anything the Oregon Herald, Col. J. C. Dow, or the mobocrats of the Legislature may say.

The Yreka Journal says: The surveying party establishing the California and Oregon boundary line, have passed Cole's Mountain House, and are now at Hungry Creek. The line passes just a quarter of a mile above the lower Cole's, which has always been in dispute, though claimed in California, being about eight miles from Cottonwood. All of Cole's ranch is in California, and Sterling's is just over the line on the Oregon side. It is expected that Hungry Creek is in California, and Grouse Creek undoubtedly in Oregon.

Capt. Simpson, of the Occident, informs us that his vessel, which has now been detained at the mouth of the Columbia for over twelve days, in consequence of the prevailing strong head winds, was but three days and a half in her passage from San Francisco to where she is now lying. We merely mention this circumstance to show that the detention is not occasioned by any fault of the crew or by the fact of her being a slow steamer.

When Oregon demands a shipping equal to California, it may be found that Portland is too far inland. We are pleased to learn that the new factory of Mr. J. P. Walker is so nearly rebuilt that steam will be raised to day, and it is expected that all the new machinery will be running within the next two weeks.

At a regular communication of Harmony Lodge, No. 12, F. & A. M., the following officers were elected for the ensuing Masonic year: W. H. Brackett, W. M.; W. H. D. Joyce, S. W.; W. A. Daly, J. W.; J. L. Atkinson, Treasurer; W. D. Carter, Secretary; and A. G. Walling, Tyler.

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Our Correspondents.

A HOME LETTER. OREGON CITY Dec. 17. Knowing that many disadvantages must attend you in the discharge of your office duties, and feeling that the public are indebted to you very much for the interesting paper you furnish for us, I—as one in this community prizing your assistance as I am, capable of, by way of jotting down home incidents for your columns; occasionally, which you are at liberty to use according to your own judgment.

REAL ESTATE. In my observation upon real estate transactions in Clackamas county, I notice that the value on property of all descriptions is advancing. I hear of advances of 25 per cent. over prices of a few weeks since, and holders are by no means anxious to sell.

A LINEN MANUFACTURING. There is no finer opening in the country than here, for all kinds of manufacturing establishments, but I am specially prompted now to call attention to the demand for a description of machinery for working up the flax being raised in this valley. Such an enterprise would yield a golden harvest to its projector. Oregon consumes an immense quantity of bagging, and her upholsters demand a vast amount of burlap; besides all of which, coarse lines and cordage—leading staples—could be made in the same establishment with slight additional machinery.

THE PEOPLE'S TRANSPORTATION CO. have at this time some 500 tons of down freight in their warehouse, consisting chiefly of grain and flour, and the Wallamet Steamboat Company is also crowded with business. The river is now on the rise, and steamers will be able to go loaded full both ways.

FROM THE APPEARANCE OF A fine looking young man en route to Dayton, marked 'Col. Chris. Taylor,' I judge that Yamhill county is prosperous, and that our former fellow townsman is preparing to store some of the grand cash of that section. The friends of Col. Taylor would be glad to have him return and put his surplus balances into some kind of machinery for manufacturing purposes.

REFLECTIONS ON A BOILER. I also observe, in the warehouse, a boiler destined for some part of the valley. If the owner would dump it into the Wallamet and come here, he could supply its place with a fraction our immense water power for about one-half the cost of the fuel to run the machine.

MORE ABOUT THE STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. I expressed doubt as to whether there would be anything done toward locating the lands granted by the State for the benefit of an Agricultural College. I am now happy to inform you that at least two of the Commissioners appointed by the legislature, Hon. J. H. Donthit and Hon. John F. Miller—have determined to make the effort to locate the lands. They will meet at Albany to-morrow (15th inst.) to consult about preliminaries, their first field of operations, etc. It is probable that Mr. Avery will also be present.

Weekly Commercial Review.

ESTABLISHED OFFICE, Oregon City, Dec. 18, 1888. NEW YORK, Dec. 14th. California flour nominal at \$7 1/2. Wheat quiet but steady at \$2 20; 25. The Liverpool quotations for California wheat are steady at 12 1/2.

PORTLAND, Dec. 16th. Apples, green per bushel 1.00. Wheat, 7 bushel 65c. Oats, per bushel 42c. Bacon, per lb 13c. Hams, 18. Shoulders 6c. Lard, in tins 12c. Eggs, per doz 50c. Butter, 30c. Chickens, young, per doz \$2 50; 3.00. Chickens, grown, per doz \$3 00; 3.50.

THE LA GRANDE SENTINEL says: A survey over the route by Col. Hadnutt, of the corps of engineers of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, has demonstrated the fact that the Meacham road over the Blue Mountains is nearly 900 feet lower than the track of the Union Pacific. It is now thought the line of railroad will pass through Pyle canyon, across Grand Ronde valley, and then follow up the river for six or seven miles, whence it will cross the mountains.

DISMISSAL NOTICE. The firm of Lewis & Wolgamot doing a manufacturing business in Oregon City, in this day dissolved, by mutual consent. The business of the late firm will be continued at the old stand as usual by JOHN W. LEWIS, who is authorized to collect and pay all bills of the said firm of Lewis & Wolgamot.

PREMIUM GANG PLOWS. As the age in which we live demands progress in Farming Implements as well as in all other branches of industry, I have entered extensively upon the Manufacture of the Celebrated Pfeil Gang Plow!

With this Plow one man can do more work than two men do with walking plows, and the same amount of time. Hence, it will be seen that it will more than pay for itself in one season's plowing.

JOHN W. LEWIS, OREGON CITY. PORTLAND DAILY AND Weekly Commercial. THE PORTLAND EVENING COMMERCIAL has abandoned its neutrality in politics, and steps forth as an advocate of sound, old-fashioned Democracy.

AUCTION AND COMMISSION

A. B. Richardson, AUCTIONEER! Corner of Front and Oak streets, Portland. AUCTION SALES. Of Real Estate, Groceries, General Merchandise and Horses.

AT PRIVATE SALE. English refined Bar and Bangle Iron; English Square and Oregon Cast steel; Horse shoes, Files, Rasps, saws; Stewers, Fry-pans, sheet iron, R. G. Iron; ALSO: A large assortment of Groceries and Liquors.

ANNUAL GRAND OPENING OF Santa Claus' BUDGET, M'CORMICK'S BOOK STORE! Where my Headquarters have been Established for the Past Seven Years, and where I will

My Annual Festival DURING THE HOLIDAYS. That all may observe the PROCLAMATION!!! Dear Parents and Children! once more I appear. And wish you good Christmas, and Happy New Year!

WEB-FOOT GANG PLOW! Web-Foot Walking Plow! Both patterns of my own invention, for which patents have been applied for, and which have withstood practical tests with the best results, receiving flattering testimonials wherever seen or tried.

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