

# WILLAMETTE FARMER.

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## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

**WASHINGTON COUNTY.**—The Republicans of this county have placed in nomination the following ticket: Representatives, George H. Collier and Thomas Stott; Sheriff, Charles T. Tozler; Clerk, W. D. Pittinger; Commissioners, Samuel J. Scott and Robert A. Carpenter; Assessor, B. F. Pierce; Treasurer, Hyer Johnson; School Superintendent, Alexander J. Anderson; Surveyor Columbus Smith; Coroner John Vite.

**PUMP FACTORY.**—The *Mercury* says J. W. Fisher and J. Henry Haas are putting up a new pump factory near the Capital Saw Mills, which is to furnish the power necessary to run it. The machinery for boring, ringing, etc., was received sometime since, and is expected to be in operation during the coming summer.

**EASTERN OREGON.**—The *Baker City Democrat*, April 17th, says: "One hundred miners reached the mines in Eagle Mining District in one day last week. Much of the placer ground is being purchased by Chinese."

The wheat fields of Eastern Oregon never looked better than they do this spring.

On the 10th inst., a child residing in Union county, climbed up to a pantry shelf and ate some concentrated lye, which was set away in a can. The child lived but a few hours afterward.

Eastern Oregon is receiving a heavy immigration. The report of the Superintendent of Common Schools in Baker county shows that out of 399 children in the county between the ages of 4 and 20 years, only 166 have attended school during the past year. In most of the districts the school has only been kept up three months in the year.

W. H. Packwood has sold his interest in the Eagle Creek Ditch to Messrs. Bowen & Cranston.

A new bridge has been built on the main Powder river road leading from Baker City to the Eagle Creek country.

**POLK COUNTY.**—From the *Republican*, April 27, we learn: Mr. Isaac Henshaw left home on Sunday, since which time nothing has been heard from him. Persons have been looking for him, but can discover no traces of his whereabouts.

Owing to the depressed state of the market, all agents buying wool have been called back to their respective headquarters. Wool, like everything else, appears to be in abundance just when buyers are fearful of a scarcity.

The two young students, who were indicted for entering the store of Mr. Lindsay at Monmouth, were tried last Friday at Dallas and acquitted.

**SOUTHERN OREGON.**—Mr. Myer, the importer of blooded stock in Southern Oregon, weighed his two noted colts Louise and Reliance, on Tuesday of last week. Louise is one year old and weighs 1,062 pounds; Reliance is eleven months old and weighs 862 pounds.

The Josephine Democratic Convention made the following nomination: State Senator, E. N. Tolen; Representative, A. L. Waldron; Clerk, Chas. Hughes; Sheriff, Dan Green.

The Democrats of Douglas county have placed in nomination the following ticket: Joint Senator, Solomon Fitzhugh; Representatives, J. N. Baker, John Drain and — Hall; Sheriff, William Muns; Clerk, E. Stephens.

The *Seaside* says that Mr. Rockwell, while mining near Ashland, in Jackson county, a few days since, found what was supposed to be a part of the

tusk of some supposed animal. The delicate little chap seems to have supported a tooth, a small fraction of which measures six feet in length and nine inches at the smaller end, and weighs one hundred and thirty-seven pounds.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION.**—The *Christian Advocate* says: The Executive Committee of the Oregon State Sunday School Convention met in the Presbyterian Church in Portland, on Tuesday evening, April 23d, 1872. Present—Dr. G. H. Atkinson, Rev. W. R. Butcher, Gen. E. B. Babbitt, Dr. J. G. Glenn, Judge C. N. Terry, and Rev. Wm. Roberts. On motion it was resolved, that the State Sunday School Convention for the present year be held, commencing on Tuesday evening, May 28th, at 7 o'clock, and extending through Wednesday 29th, Thursday 30th, at the option of the Convention, in the Congregational Church in Albany.

**GRANT COUNTY.**—D. B. Rhinchart, Esq., writes us as follows from Canyonville, under date of April 14th: "Many farmers have finished sowing their spring crops; others are drawing their work to a close, while the remainder will finish their work in a few weeks. Horticulturists still move cautiously about sowing the tender seeds. We have heard of but two instances of early corn being planted. Peas, radishes, onions, lettuce, etc., are up and doing well. Peach and cherry blooms are just appearing. Several of our stock men, J. J. Cozart, Wager, and De Morse, are collecting beef cattle, preparatory to driving to the Portland market. Should they succeed in delivering them, in their present condition, the epicures of the metropolis may enjoy a luxury not often obtained west of the mountains at this season of the year."

**CANAL AND LOCKS.**—The *Oregon City Enterprise*, April 26th, says: Last Monday a double force of workmen was put to work on the Locks. It is the intention of the Company to work two sets of hands until the work is completed, and orders have been issued to the Engineer in charge to put on all the force necessary to complete the work by the time prescribed by law. The Company are using every exertion in their power to comply with the law, and they are satisfied that the work will be completed and ready for boats by or before the 1st of January, 1873. There are now 225 men at work, and more can get employment, at \$2.25 per day in coin. This night force will aid considerably in pushing the work on to a speedy completion.

**WALLA WALLA.**—Kyger, who was held to answer on the charge of robbing the County Treasury at Walla Walla, of \$19,365, had his bail fixed at \$7,500.

Walla Walla county is in a bad condition financially speaking. The prospect is that at the end of this year the county will owe \$10,000 and will have nothing to pay it with.

**ARRESTED.**—On Thursday, Deputy Sheriff Rush, on a requisition from the Governor of Washington Territory, arrested a man named Lewis Miller, indicted by the grand jury of Clark county, W. T., for adultery. He was taken below by the Sheriff of Clark county on Thursday. This Miller is the man who has been offering a reward of \$250 for the arrest of his brother, Minter B. Miller, whom he charges with having stolen the sum of \$1,060 in gold coin from him.—*Eugene Guard*.

**BRITISH COLUMBIA.**—Sixty tons of coal from the new seam of the Vancouver Coal Company, Newcastle Island, was shipped by the bark Shooting Star for San Francisco. It is said to be of a very superior quality to that obtained from the Douglas pit.

The fruit yield on the Island promises to be large; but the old trees—those

planted eight or ten years ago—continue to show symptoms of decay from no apparent cause, except, perhaps, a lack of life-giving properties of the soil.

A correspondent writing from Fort Rupert, says that feasts on human flesh are very common among the Indians of that neighborhood. One tribe will sacrifice a slave or a child and peddle the meat from camp to camp. The horrid feasts commence at the full of the December moon, and during its progress the partakers appear to be more like wild beasts than human beings.—*Colonist*.

**WOOL.**—The first lot of wool, of this year's clip, was received at the Willamette Woolen Mills, Salem, on Tuesday last.

**SENTENCED.**—Abraham Raud has been sentenced to the penitentiary for three years, by the Lane circuit court, for forgery.

**RETIRED.**—C. H. James has retired from the *Corvallis Gazette*. Wm. B. Carter is once more the sole proprietor, and editor.

**POSTAL.**—Petitions are in circulation at Dayton, Wheatland, and other points, for a daily mail between Salem and Lafayette.

## DOMESTIC NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

**WASHINGTON, May 1.**—Secretary Fish stated to-day concerning our relations with Spain that Gen. Siskles' instructions were to the effect that if Spain continues to decline an amicable settlement of vexatious questions in controversy between the two Governments he was directed to demand his passports and inform Spain that the United States would not send another Minister until she complied with our demands. The Charge d'Affairs in that event would remain and the American Legation be kept open, while our relations would not be very cordial.

A number of copies of the British counter case have been received at the British Legation, and six have been given to the Department of State. There is much talk and considerable excitement among members of the House to-day, several of the most prominent expressing a belief, from information received, that the American claim for consequential damages will be abandoned.

The President has approved the bill repealing the duties on tea and coffee, to go into effect after July 1st.

Inquiry in official sources elicits the fact that Siskles took instructions relative to the release of Dr Howard in the spirit of former communications. The immediate object of Siskles' return is to bring home several members of his family and present his letter of recall, he having for some time contemplated withdrawal. His successor will not be appointed for some time.

It has been ascertained from authentic sources that while our government has not withdrawn and will not withdraw its claims for consequential damages, it has signified to Great Britain that no money award is anticipated or desired, but simply a decision of the question involved touching the duties and obligations of neutrals.

The Senate has confirmed the appointment of E. B. Watson, Register, at Linkton, Oregon.

"**THE BUSY WEST.**"—This is the title of a monthly magazine just started at St. Paul, Minnesota, by Miss Bella French, who is the editor and proprietor. The typographical appearance is excellent, and the articles are nearly all original, and of a high order. While not claiming to be a "woman's rights" organ, it will advocate all true reforms, and work for the best interests of the people, showing by example more than by words what women are capable of doing. We extend a welcome hand to the *Busy West*, and wish its conductor abundant success. The price of subscription is \$2.50 per annum.

For the Willamette Farmer.

## FAMILIAR TALKS.—No. 8.

I felt particularly careful of the Early Rose potatoes, and so placed them on a ground floor of a house, and mixed considerable dry earth with them. The result is that they have not kept so well as those that were pitted during the winter, and for a month past lying on a ground floor in a dark house. The Early Rose were sound, but a good deal sprouted, while the others were equally sound, but free from sprouts.

Potatoes may be prevented from sprouting "by exposing to the vapor of sulphurous acid, by one of the various well-known modes, and a large mass of potatoes can be treated at one time." This, it is asserted, does not affect the flavor of the potato, or diminish the vitality, but simply retards the formation and growth of eyes.

Some writers tell us that strawberries can be raised about as cheap as potatoes. I cannot reach that point with strawberries, but can very nearly, if not quite, with raspberries. Both of these, however, should be on every farmer's table without stint, during their season. We have just cut down to the ground a part of the raspberries, which will throw up strong canes, and bear late this season, but after the regular crop is all gone. It is not too late yet to try the experiment.

The monthly Agricultural Report gives the item that "the members withdrew from the Mahoning County Agricultural Society on account of its horse-racing and gambling, which absorbed most of the time and attention of the people, leading them to lose sight of the true claims of agriculture and horticulture." If the Oregon State Agricultural Society would take courage, and not offer premiums for trials of speed, they will have taken one long step toward reform. Sooner or later, this question of horse-racing, horse-jockeying, gambling, or whatever you may call it, if not checked and kept within bounds, will be the rock upon which the Society will split.

We may reasonably expect that butter will be cheap this present season, as we already hear of shipments eastward by rail. This depression, probably, will be confined to low or second grades and good, that may be pressed upon the market before the rush is over. Many dairymen, however, will be inclined to ease up, and turn off the least profitable milkers, in view of the high price of labor, and other causes. There is nothing so deceptive as to judge a cow by the quantity of milk she gives, and yet to determine the quality accurately is no easy matter. Failing to get a lactometer already constructed, I had recourse to 'sample phials,' one-fourth of an inch in diameter and six inches in length. These cost fifty cents a dozen, and placed in a frame with parallel horizontal ruled lines upon the back. These lines may be numbered, and, filling the phials from milk of different cows, the relative quality can be seen at a glance, as soon as the cream has had time to rise. My experiments made last season showed

a very great difference in the quality of the milk. The proportionate quantity of cream from the milk of five cows is represented by the figures 80, 72, 66, 61, 50, making a difference of over sixty per cent. In the quality of milk tested. This information, costing fifty cents, and a little time, saved me many dollars.

[The remainder of our correspondent's article, which is devoted to 'underdraining,' will appear in the next issue of the FARMER.]

## THE WOOL PROSPECT.

From the present indications it looks as though the high prices that at present rule, will with difficulty be maintained. Recent letters from the East indicate enormous receipts of wool from Australia, Buenos Ayres and the Cape of Good Hope, and at present the market is well supplied. It seems that during the last week in March, seven vessels discharged in New York about 7,000 bales, and that there are now afloat from wool ports sixty vessels for the United States.

American fleece in the Boston market has declined about 7 cents per pound and Australia about 5 cents, during the last week. It is thought that the market had turned its highest point and was tending downward; that dealers were growing sensitive and anxious to dispose of their stock.

From another source we learn that the scarcity of American wool had driven so many manufacturers from using it, that the call for it has fallen off, and the higher prices ruling but a short time since are not maintained. Yet with the next breath the same informant would indicate that manufacturers are making renewed inquiries for foreign wool, but refrain from purchasing more than they want for immediate use, as though they had but little hope of any decline. It would appear, therefore, that the chances for a further advance or an immediate decline are considerably mixed; and we would admonish wool holders to keep themselves thoroughly informed of any changes likely to occur.—*Pacific Rural Press*.

## OREGON MATTERS AT WASHINGTON.

We clip the following paragraphs from the Washington correspondence of the *Eugene Journal*:

### THE PORTLAND, DALLES AND SALT LAKE RAILROAD.

The bill which has passed Congress, merely gives the right of way and lands for depots, materials from the public lands for construction, etc., for a railroad from Great Salt Lake to Portland, Oregon. Col. Chapman is considerably elated over the passage of the bill even in this form, because he believes that, with the arrangements he has already completed and such as can be made hereafter, the road will be built. If a land grant can hereafter be obtained there will be no difficulty in obtaining means to build the road.

### CITIZENS IN OREGON.

The bill introduced by Senator Corbett to make citizens of all persons born in Oregon previous to the treaty of 1846, whose fathers were British subjects and whose mothers were Indians, was reported last week from the committee on the Judiciary, by striking out the preamble and original bill, and inserting the following in lieu thereof: "That all persons born in the district of country formerly known as the Territory of Oregon, and subject to the jurisdiction of the United States at this time, are citizens of the United States in the same manner as if born elsewhere in the United States."

**NEW MUSIC.**—G. L. DePruas, Portland, will accept our thanks for favors in the music line.