

Correspondence.

[For the Willamette Farmer.] FARMERS' CLUBS.

Probably there is no one plan that can be inaugurated immediately, that will have the immediate good effect on the farming community, as the organization of Farmers' Clubs in every neighborhood throughout the State.

Of course, different sections of the country will naturally discuss different subjects. One portion may be most interested in discussing the subject of raising wheat and other cereals; another portion the best mode of caring for sheep, cattle, and horses, the cures for the diseases that they are liable to have; another Club, the best mode of destroying squirrels, etc.

The dark days of winter are now on us, and all the farmers have plenty of time to meet together and organize clubs, and, when spring shall have arrived, each will be amply repaid for his trouble by the information that they have given to each other.

We would suggest a plan something like this for the organization that we speak of: Let all the farmers in an election precinct, if not too large, meet at some place and organize by electing a president and secretary—the latter officer to be for, say, one year. And, when they adjourn, to convene at a certain farmer's house, let that person for the occasion be the presiding officer; it would be a compliment to the host, and be appreciated by him.

We would like to make one more suggestion, which is that every farmer furnish the secretary of his club a tabular statement of his farm operations, something like the following, and instruct him to compile it into one report, and send it to the county convention or club, if there be one, (and, if there is none, organize one, so that the same can be compiled as a county report and sent to the secretary of the State Agricultural Society.) This table, we are inclined

to think, will prove a source of great information to the country at large, and have its influence accordingly.

Table with columns: Name, A. C. S., No. acres of farm, 640. Rows include: Acres wheat sown, (fall 40, spring 30), 70; oats, 30; orchard, 10; Meadow, 25; Pasture, 300; Outweld, 315-640; Sheep, 530; Cattle, 60; Horses, 12-322. Amount of wheat raised last year: oats, hay, apples, etc.

And any other information that would be of interest, as it might be that some particular farmer has paid more attention to dairying, another to raising hops, etc. Also the particular kind of soil, such as red hill land, black bottom land, gravelly land, or sandy loam that is apt to be found along the river bottom, as the case might be.

DRILLING VERSUS BROADCAST.

TANGENT, LINN CO., Dec. 20, 1872.

MR. EDITOR: I see in the FARMER of Nov. 9th an article headed "Drilling versus Broadcast," discussing the two modes of putting in grain. Now I have no ax to grind, but I wish to state a few facts as they are.

Now, my own experience in the two modes of putting in grain, is this: Last spring I plowed a piece of ground, and sowed one half of it broadcast, harrowing it twice. The other half I harrowed once, and put it in with a drill; and went over the whole of it with a clod-masher—the drilling and sowing all being done the same day.

The above, Mr. FARMER, is a fair statement of facts, which Mr. Finlayson will not deny.

Rock Point Farmers' Club.

The Club met Dec. 14, 1872, at the appointed hour—Henry Udell, President, in the chair. The roll being called, twelve members answered to their names.

The minutes of the last meeting being approved, a call was made for the monthly essay, whereupon A. W. Denny read an essay on the progress of Oregon, written in poetic style, which elicited some merriment in the Club room.

On motion, a committee, consisting of G. S. Downing, G. W. Hunt, and I. E. Gleason, was appointed by the Chair to draft resolutions upon the death of Levi Douthit, a member of this Club. The resolutions were ordered sent to the Willamette Farmer for publication.

A committee, consisting of John Downing, I. E. Gleason, and G. W. Hunt, was appointed by the Chair to act for the Club in reference to the

approaching Centennial International Exhibition.

The Club got into a warm discussion on the constitution of the Society, which was disposed of by referring the matter to a committee composed of John Downing and G. W. Hunt.

The following named members were appointed on standing committees:

Field Crops—G. S. Downing. Fruit and Fruit Trees—G. W. Hunt. Gardening—Ira Carter.

Market Reports—John Downing. Stock-raising—Mr. Humphreys.

Owing to the lateness of the hour, the regular discussion was postponed. The subject for next month's discussion is Sheep-Husbandry.

On motion, adjourned.

I. E. GLEASON, Ass't Sec'y.

At a meeting of Rock Point Farmers' Club, held Dec. 14, 1872, the following proceedings were had:

Whereas, it has pleased the Supreme Ruler of the Universe to remove from time our beloved brother Levi Douthit; by his death, his family is bereft of a kind husband and father, the neighborhood of one of its most respected citizens, and this Club of a worthy member; therefore,

Be it resolved, That the family of our deceased brother has our heartfelt sympathy in their bereavement.

Resolved, That a copy of these proceedings be sent to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That a copy be spread upon the Journal of the Club, and that a copy be sent to the Willamette Farmer for publication, with a request that Oregon and Washington Territory papers please copy.

G. W. HUNT, G. S. DOWNING, I. E. GLEASON, Committee.

WHEAT AT OUR LATE FAIR.

Mr. Hugh Small, traveling correspondent of the S. F. Rural Press, writes to that paper as follows concerning the cultivation of wheat in this valley:

Mr. C. P. Burkhart, three miles from Albany, has given special attention to the raising of wheat and oats for some years. His land is not naturally richer than the average soil of the Willamette valley, but he excels in cultivating the ground and in selecting seed. These are the essential qualifications for a successful farmer, and constitute the difference between raising twenty, the minimum, and sixty, the maximum, bushels of wheat to the acre in Oregon.

The sample marked No. 1 contains "Mammoth" or "Burkhart" white wheat, that yielded an average of 44 bushels to the acre this harvest. No. 2 contains a sample of his "Tonzeila" wheat, a French variety, that yielded 56 bushels to the acre. No. 3 is a sample of his "Golden Amber," that produced 43 bushels to the acre. In 1871 the Burkhart wheat produced an average of 61 bushels to the acre, so that the yield of 1872 is 17 bushels below what it was the previous year.

Mrs. Smith, wife of Captain John Smith, of the Warm Springs Reservation, died December 17th, at the residence of her son-in-law on Fifteen Mile Creek. Her remains were buried in the Dalles, Wednesday. She had been suffering for about two years with a cancer, which was the cause of her death. She was about 62 years of age.

It is estimated that China will be a market for American butter and cheese to the amount of 8,000 tons annually.

A BARN belonging to Allen Hussey, near Sheridan, was consumed by fire a few days ago. It was valued, with contents, at \$500.

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

BOSTON, Dec. 18.—Sumner's "oblivion" resolution was condemned by a resolution of the Senate by 20 to 9, and in the House by 104 to 76.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 18.—G. G. Mulla-ly, a post-office clerk, charged with abstracting money from letters sent to the agent of the Louisville Public Library Concert, was held in \$2,500 bail.

LEAVENWORTH, Dec. 18.—The epizootic prevails here to a great extent. In eighteen livery stables five hundred horses are sick. Half the private horses in the city are affected. Street cars are withdrawn from the Fort Leavenworth road.

OMAHA, Dec. 18.—Jesse Turner, Receiver of Public Lands at Grand Island, Nebraska, accidentally shot and killed himself to-day, while cleaning his gun.

A public meeting is to be held at Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory, to-night, in opposition to the proposal to divide that Territory among adjoining Territories. Reports from Laramie City and other points represent public sentiment as pretty equally divided.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—The Secretary of the Treasury gave notice to-day that he would commence the payment of interest due January 1, 1873, on Saturday, the 21st, without rebate.

The President visited the Capitol this afternoon and held conversations with several Senators on business matters—it is inferred, in reference to the Vienna Exhibition, as it is known he has expressed a desire to have American products largely represented; it is feared that the appropriation of only \$100,000, as proposed by the Committee on Foreign Affairs, is insufficient for the purpose.

The Postmaster-General has made a very important decision in relation to the responsibility of postmasters under bonds for loss of registered letters. It is decided that postmasters are responsible, and he will hold them accountable. This construction has never been made before and is contrary to the opinion of many eminent jurists, and will greatly increase responsibilities under postmasters' bonds.

PARIS, Dec. 18.—A World's special says Chaunsey's corps is being increased to 100,000, while Ducrot, who is a doubtful Republican, has only 48,000 men. Thiers to-day said he intended to keep the monarchists in awe.

BERLIN, Dec. 18.—A Provincial correspondent confirms the report of Bismark's resignation of the Premiership, and his retention of the War Office in the Prussian Cabinet.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—At an interview between the Louisiana Committee and the President, Judge Campbell asked the latter to send to New Orleans three impartial learned men to make full inquiry and take testimony. The President said he supposed it was competent for the Supreme Court to designate any one of its members to proceed to Louisiana, but did not think it quite proper for him to make the request of them. Congress had power to investigate the facts of the case presented, but he did not propose to interfere with local affairs in that State by putting one set of officers or another in power. No action was taken in the matter till the decree of the United States Court was attempted to be set aside or resisted by the Governor of the State; then the Marshal was simply instructed to see that the decree of the Federal Court was sustained, and military force was to be used, if necessary, to support authority.

TOLEDO, Dec. 20.—The theft of a body from a grave-yard by students of the Charity Hospital Medical College for dissection, some weeks ago, has resulted seriously. The corpse was that of a victim of small-pox, though this was not learned until the body had been conveyed to the dissecting-room, which is in a large block in the heart of the city, occupied in the lower part for stores and offices, and above for lodging-rooms and the Medical College. The contagion was not only disseminated through the building and taken by the unvaccinated occupants, but was carried by the students to their boarding-places, and has been widely spread through the city. Though distributed from a corpse, the cases resulting therefrom are of the worst form of black small-pox. A number of deaths have occurred and other patients are in a critical condition. The people are highly indignant, and the City Council has taken cognizance of the affair with a view to prevent any similar occurrences in the future.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Judge Orr of South Carolina accepts the Russian mission, and expects to sail for Europe about the middle of January, though he prefers not to encounter the rigors of a St. Petersburg climate until the middle of March.

The American Geographical Society has undertaken to collect for the Vienna International Exposition, maps, photographs, scenery, geographical, and other reports, and information which will best represent the true condition of the country, and make a collection and export articles at its own expense.

George Francis Train was arrested this evening for publishing obscene literature.

BOSTON, Dec. 20.—The Committee on recounting votes for Mayor and Aldermen concluded the mayoralty

count this afternoon, and the figures elect Henry L. Pierce by a plurality of 29 votes over Mayor Gaston.

SIoux CITY, Dec. 20.—A dispatch from Fort Sully says, in regard to the shooting of Capt. Irvine by Indians: "The feeling here is that the only remedy for the troubles with them is to occupy the Black Hills country with miners. The Indians give accounts of wonderful mines of gold and silver in those hills, and as the hostile Indians will not permit friendly ones or white men to go there, it is but a stronghold for hostile assassins that should be broken up. All demands for the surrender of Indians are treated with laughter and contempt by the chiefs and warriors."

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—At Washington it is thought the polygamy problem will soon be settled by the Administration. Delegations in the interest of Brigham Young in that city, who recently came from Utah, are working with less hope to avert the coming storm. President Grant has recently expressed a determination to put an end to Mormon institutions. After the holidays, the necessary laws will be presented to Congress. Rumors of impending changes among high officials in Utah are current.

A party of New York capitalists lately arrived in Washington, having in view the carrying out at their own expense of improvements in the District of Columbia, if, in return, Congress will donate them lands of equivalent value.

Information has been received that Minister Catacazy has not fallen into disgrace with the Czar. He has just been employed to adjust certain ecclesiastical difficulties between the Pope and the Russian government, concerning the appointment of Catholic bishop in Poland.

One of the members of the Appropriation Committee doubts if any postal bill will be passed at the present session. The measure of Creswell seems to meet with disfavor.

The German Democratic Central Committee has reaffirmed the principles of the Cincinnati platform, and taken steps for reorganization on its principles.

SPECIAL POINTS IN A GOOD DAIRY COW.

—In buying or rearing dairy cows, always try and have them of good breed. Grades of the Ayrshire, Alderney or Shorthorns, are the best, and should be of medium size, fine head, very broad between the eyes; eye of a mild and pleasant expression, small horns of a waxy color preferred, rather a long neck, which must be thin, but may be deep, particularly where it springs from the breast, fore quarters, shanks from the knee down short and fine, barrel round, and ribs arching well from the back, body long, back straight, hips broad—can scarcely be too much, tail falling at right angles with the back, and should be long and fine, hind quarters rather long and thin, udder well developed, particularly the forward part of it, teats standing well apart, of medium size, and pointing forward, the coat should be of medium length, fine, and of silky feel; the skin should be loose and mellow, and of a yellowish tinge. Experience has taught us, that a cow combining the greatest number of the above points is the most profitable for the dairyman to keep. Such a cow will give a greater quantity and better quality of milk than a larger and coarser animal.

The Roseburg Plaindealer of the 20th inst., says: Ben Holladay, President of the O. & C. R. R., arrived at the depot at 4 a. m. yesterday, and left at 6 a. m. on the overland stage for California.

The Roseburg Pantagraph says: The more prospecting is done in the Chromo district of Douglas county, the richer they prove to be. Late development prove them richer than any on the coast.

E. L. APPELEGATE subscribed 251 shares to the State University Fund. This is \$100 more than the amount necessary to be subscribed to entitle the Company to incorporate.

A SPECIAL term of the Circuit Court for Marlon county has been ordered to be held, Monday, Dec. 30th, for the hearing of two or three equity cases from Multnomah county.

A SPECIAL post office will be established at the residence of F. M. Bridges, at the forks of Coos river, and Mr. Bridges appointed Postmaster.

He that thinks himself the happiest man, really is so; but he that thinks himself the wisest, is generally the greatest fool.