



Salem, Saturday, Dec. 28.

REMOVAL.

The FARMER office has been removed to Stewart's block, Commercial street—up stairs, first door at the left.

WANTED.—Yew posts, Read advertisement.

HORSE COLLARS.—The attention of farmers and horsemen is called to the advertisement in to-day's issue of J. C. Johnson & Co., San Francisco, who are manufacturers of a copper riveted horse collar, which is said to be superior to any other collar now in use.

SNOW STORM.—We are informed that on last Friday morning, the snow at The Dalles was six inches deep, and still falling. The weather was very cold, and the Columbia full of mush ice.

UNEASY.—The stock owners in Eastern Oregon who have no hay, were feeling very uneasy last week about the safety of their stock. But probly the Chinook wind has removed their fears and the snow by this time.

TAXES FROM LANE.—Julius A. Stratton, Esq., Deputy Treasurer of Lane county, came down last Wednesday, bringing over eight thousand dollars of taxes due the State from that county. Besides this amount, he brought \$972 currency and \$1,260 coin, interest from the school money loaned in that county, which sums were paid to the Common School fund.

IOWA.—We are indebted to J. M. Shaffer, Esq., Secretary, for a copy of the report made by him of the proceedings of the State Agricultural Society, for 1871. The report is made to the Governor, in accordance with law, and embraces a general review of the condition of agriculture throughout the State for the year. The volume is bound, and contains about 500 pages.

SEVERE.—From a gentleman who arrived in Salem, last Sunday, from the head of Willow creek, Umatilla county, we learn that the late earthquake shock was so severe at that place, that he was nearly thrown out of his bed, and that articles suspended on the walls oscillated like a clock pendulum. The animals, cattle and horses, seemed to be greatly terrified. The shock appeared to come from towards the Three Sisters, and our informant said he believed they had "waken up and shaken themselves."

ONLY.—In giving an account of a railroad accident a daily paper says: "Only a Chinaman hurt." Only a Chinaman! Is not a Chinaman's blood as red as yours? Don't his flesh quiver when it is mangled? Don't his bones ache when they are broken? If you were away off in the center of the "Flowery Kingdom," and should be mortally injured by some accident, how would you like the pig-tailed Celestials to exclaim, "Only an outside barbarian hurt"? "O, that would be a different thing." Yes, it does make a great difference whose ox is gored.

RAILROAD ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday morning an accident happened to the regular passenger train coming north, about seven miles south of Eugene City, by which the passenger car was thrown from the track, and eight or ten persons more or less injured. One man had several ribs broken, and another suffered a dislocation of a wrist, which we believe were the most serious injuries sustained by any one. The accident was caused by the giving way of a culvert from which the dirt was washed by the late rains. The engine and tender passed over the weak spot safely. A. M. Smith, of Buena Vista, was the most seriously hurt, receiving severe sprains of the arm and leg, and other injuries.

PENITENTIARY.

We wish to consider this word in the light of one of Webster's definitions of its meaning: "A house of correction in which offenders are confined for punishment and reformation." There is no doubt that those who originated our present style of State prisons, and adopted the name by which they are most frequently designated, "penitentiary," did so with a full understanding of the meaning of the word. No doubt the main thought was originally to establish a form of prison discipline founded in part, if not chiefly, on the idea of reformation. But we ask how far the public in general has retained the original idea. Would not a majority of people now, if called upon to define the term penitentiary, omit one important part of Webster's definition? And we very much doubt whether a majority of those who understand the real meaning of the word really have any faith in the reformation principle. The facts in the case do not tend to prove that the community at large, or even a respectable portion of it, believes in the possibility of the reformation of any one who has once seen the inside of a felon's cell.—We have no doubt made great progress as to the general treatment of prisoners. The aims of prison officers and the intentions of many individuals are good in this matter. But the inscription too plainly written over the entrance to our prisons is, "Let all who enter here leave hope behind." And the prisoner reads it when he passes out no less plainly than when he passes in. His striped clothing may be laid aside, but his convict name sticks to him. He is stared at, though he looks much the same as other men; he is doubted, though his intentions may be honest; he is kept out of employment, though he is ever so willing to work. He finds it as necessary to change his name and seek some other country as though he had escaped from prison without completing his term. And this is not only true in some cases, but it is true as a rule. We care not what men's professions are. Their acts speak louder. They may say that some men with whom they deal in business, and with whom they meet on terms of social equality, are greater rascals than the average convict; yet they will keep company with one and shun the other, simply because in one instance the law has had its course, while in the other justice has been defrauded.

Now, we say this condition of things proves that the average public sentiment does not favor the possibility of a criminal's reformation. And we need not say that this prevalent public sentiment goes far toward hindering the reformation of our criminals. When their terms of confinement are out, it is too often the case that they are virtually compelled to go back to their old associations and habits, from the fact that no other course of life is open to them. This is a loss not only to the individual but to the community. The criminal driven from hope becomes reckless as well as hopeless. If every man's hand is against him, his hand is against every man.—Community not only loses a member, but makes an enemy.

We know it is sometimes said "it will not do to trust these men. Shall we peril the peace of our homes and the safety of our property by taking them into our confidence?" Of course not. But we need not treat them so differently from the way we treat suspicious characters who have never been in prison. Because we cannot adopt them into our families we need not assume to put the brand of Cain upon them. We believe the community has lost more, and individuals have lost more, by the prevalent mode of treating this class of men than ever would have been lost by showing them the fullest sympathy and confidence.

And it is not only after the convict is out of jail, but while he is still confined, that the community is to some extent arrayed against him. Men

are willing he should reform. Of course they are. But what do they do to help him? What do they commonly say of those who try to help him? Men who visit prisons and seek to reform criminals are no longer sneered at by Pharisees alone as "friends of publicans and sinners," but they are sneered at by creatures who are meaner than either Pharisees, publicans or sinners. It is well known in our own community, that for many months past a number of individuals have taken a lively interest in the criminals in our penitentiary, and have provided for them various means of intellectual and moral culture. Quite a respectable library of books has been provided, an abundance of papers and magazines, and stated religious and literary exercises. The officers of the prison (we say it to their praise) have welcomed and aided these efforts, and the prisoners have taken a growing interest in them. The better part of our whole community have praised and aided these men in their work. But the sympathies and sentiments of the "baser sort" have found expression in the utterances of certain scrub editors and blackguard lawyers, who have suffered no opportunity to pass without indulging in shallow witticisms and unmanly sneers at the expense of these benevolent efforts. But these sneers have only had the effect of putting those who utter them where they rightly belong in the estimation of all right thinking people. And we believe two good results will follow the work that is now being done in our prison: the community about us will be led to accept true idea of prison discipline and many individuals during their prison terms will be reclaimed from lives of infamy and crime.

THE OVERLAND MONTHLY FOR JANUARY, 1873.—This is the first monthly part of the tenth volume, and we must say is as interesting as any previous number we have had the pleasure of perusing. It keeps up its local characteristics to a remarkable degree of excellence, apparently improving with every issue, and has developed a corps of contributors that has excited the attention of the literary centers of both Europe and America. We are pleased to notice that the authors' names are published in connection with their contributions. The "Etc." and "Current Literature" departments are full, varied, and instructive. Remember, a new volume begins with this number. We advise all to take it, for they will surely not regret the outlay of four dollars for one year's subscription. John H. Carmany & Co., Publishers, No. 409 Washington st., San Francisco.

ANOTHER.—Rev. A. F. Waller, another of Oregon's earliest pioneers, died at five o'clock on Thursday morning, Dec. 26th, in the sixty-fifth year of his age. He arrived in Oregon as a missionary of the Methodist Church in May, 1840, and has been from that time a constant laborer in the interests of that denomination. The last few years he has been financial agent of Willamette University. He bore a part in the struggles of the early settlers, and was familiar with the history of our State from the time when it was a wilderness. He will be missed by his associates in labor, and by a whole community that now fully appreciates his virtues.

RAINS.—The heavy rains, delayed so long, have come at last. For two days and nights before Christmas, the warm, steady south wind was blowing. The doors and windows of heaven were blown wide open, and water fell on the earth in bucketfuls. The little creeks were booming in a few hours, and the Willamette arose twelve feet in two days. Christmas has come and gone. The mercury is above forty, the sky clear in spots, but heavy clouds are still drifting northward. The days are growing longer, and before many days the farmers will be thinking about spring. We have had no winter to grumble about, so far.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7, 1872.

It is now a month since I left Oregon, mostly passed in travel. My journeys have carried me by sea to California, and overland by rail to Boston and thence here. I have watched with peculiar interest the country through which my journeys have laid, and have recognized that power and greatness have increased as the course lay eastward, until here, on the Atlantic seaboard are found the great cities of the East, born of an older civilization and with more commercial greatness than any west of the Alleghanies. It is wonderful to see the wealth and power, constantly increasing, in the sterile and rocky sides of New England. Every where that water power is available, immense manufactories are now being erected, if not in operation before. I looked with wonder at the progress making on a stream which runs through Western Connecticut, whose course is traversed by an important railroad, for as frequently as a waterpower can be made available, immense cotton or factories are being built, and each calls to life a thriving village and gives work to hundreds of operatives.

I do not hesitate to believe that there is more improvement made each year on the Atlantic seaboard, than on ours, that the building up of this section to rival the most successful commerce, manufactures, and science, and all that makes modern civilization, even relatively considered, is far in advance of what is being accomplished on the Pacific. The reason is evident; here the world's commerce centers, and the ability to cope with the manufactures of the world is an established fact. I view all this with especial interest, because I realize that when in the future the manufacturing interests of the west coast are developed, then Oregon will be at least to that region what New England is to this, and our abundant water powers will be called into use to build up a wealth and greatness that our future must realize in time, but I fear that it can never be in our time, for it can scarcely be until the nations of the Pacific have more intimate commercial relations than can be established for half a century to come.

It is certain that our importance as a State depends much upon the success of our manufacturing interests, and that eventually they must rival the work done elsewhere in the world. Travel shows me how new Oregon is, and still I had reason to be proud of our State, and to appreciate its comfortable homes and permanent improvements by contrast with the bleak looking ranches which were visible in California, where the land is greatly monopolized by speculators who rent to tenants whose only object is to make the soil yield the utmost returns for the least labor.

I made a short visit to Salt Lake City, where I saw Gov. Woods, S. E. May, B. M. Durrell, Capt. Rice, Capt. Borland, S. W. Drew, E. M. Barnum, and others who have lived in Oregon. In company with Mr. May, I went to the summit of the Tabernacle, from whence we had a fine view of the "City of the Saints." Brigham's seraglios are near on the east, and consist of very fine houses, extensive as is necessary to accommodate his devoted and numerous wives. His favorite has a mansion to herself. I came away from Salt Lake City with a full appreciation of the energy and industry that has developed Utah and built up that really beautiful city, but with a conviction that the crimes of Mormonism have been hideous, and that some speedy and effectual means should be devised to put an end to the monstrous evils of the system.

The weather was very cold when we crossed the Rocky Mountains, and the winds of Wyoming and Nebraska were fearful. We met trains going West that had been detained on up grades because the wind made it impossible for them to advance faster than a mile and a half an hour, and they were, for several days in

succession, eight hours behind time. The bare plains of Nebraska seemed to me bleak and uninviting, and only when we neared the Missouri river at Omaha did the settlement of the country show such homes and improvements as we possess in Oregon. In many respects, our State as to actual improvement will compare favorably with all the West, and especially in climate we are much more favored.

Crossing the Missouri, our course lay through Southern Iowa, and then I took the Indianapolis, Pittsburg, and Philadelphia route, and went to Boston. As we came East, the older and more perfect settlement of the country, the immense system of railroads, the beautiful cities, and their more beautiful suburbs, were a constant source of interest, and the passage from smoky Pittsburg and its multitude of iron works over the broad Alleghanies, was a scene of strange interest, because the mountain sides are every where penetrated by the hands of labor in search of coal and iron which abound there. The line of the Pennsylvania railroad is almost every where the scene of active mining operations and the manufacture of iron.

Crossing the mountains, we swept through the great States that line the seaboard, as I have already related, and the journey seemed to one, whose travel for many years had been through Pacific States and Territories, a panorama of singular beauty, where capital and labor have striven to create and embellish, and the vast resources of nature have yielded a willing tribute to the energy and the will of man.

I am domesticated for the winter in this city, and shall attempt from here to send such word as shall be appropriate to the FARMER and of value and interest to its readers.

Rotation in Crops.

ED. FARMER: I have been requested to write an article for publication in the valley, upon the above subject.

I do not profess to know everything pertaining to rotation in crops in Oregon. If my experience and observations here for twenty-one years can benefit persons engaged in agriculture in our young and growing State, I shall be well pleased. It is true, that we can derive much useful information from such books, but our soil, climate, and seasons are so different from those in the States east of Rocky Mountains, that we must learn anew here. The soils in Western Oregon are generally very rich and productive. For many years after this section was settled by our people, the earth brought forth abundant crops, with but indifferant tillage. On discovering the great adaptability of our soil to the raising of wheat, and its superior quantity and quality, it became the staple crop here. And our manner of tillage, plowing once a year and in the spring generally, or in the fall for fall wheat—the land became very foul with weeds, and the surface become deadened. But yet those lands are run in wheat or oats, until the product per acre no longer pays in many cases. And the fact that no people, who depend chiefly on raising and exporting grain for a standard crop, can become permanently rich or prosperous, should admonish us to turn our attention to rotation in crops, and cultivate such vegetables in part, as will answer the next best purpose, and yet not impoverish our lands. Wheat should never be sown upon fresh wheat stubble twice in succession. And the same of oats, unless upon fresh clean land. Crops of vegetables of various sorts should be extensively cultivated for home use and for export trade. Peas, potatoes, artichokes, and red clover should be raised in sufficient quantities, to fatten all our hogs and raise our fowls. These crops do not impoverish the soil, but draw to the surface various salts, necessary for a wheat crop. All old worn out fields should be deeply subsoiled and summer fallowed. The summer fallow can be profitably done by cultivating