



Salem, Saturday, April 19.

Notice.

Farmers' Clubs that are now organized, or may be organized by the second Tuesday in June next, are earnestly requested to forward to the Secretary of the State Convention at Salem, name of club, county in which it is organized, number of club, list of officers, postoffice address of Secretary, and total number of members, and times of meetings, &c., at their earliest convenience.

M. WILKINS, President.
J. HENRY BROWN, Sec.

THE WILLAMETTE FARMER.

The circulation of the FARMER has greatly increased during the past winter, notwithstanding the "hard times" so much talked of. We recognize that the farmers of Oregon consider this their own organ, and devoted to their interests, and they can give us a support that will strengthen us to labor for their interest if they will all subscribe for the paper.

There should be a popular journal in the State which the people can depend on as independent of political and sectarian views, and outspoken for the right, without fear or favor; such we propose to convince them the FARMER is determined to be. It asks no favors of monopoly, owes no allegiance to capital, is independent of politics, depends entirely for its support on the good will of the people and owes allegiance only to them.

We recognize that the State Agricultural Society is a valuable means of good, and we shall work for its advancement. We hope to work in sympathy with the State Board even should we sometimes criticize its acts or allow correspondents to do so.—When a Farmers' State Union is formed, we shall co-operate with it entirely, and the Union and all its branches may consider this paper devoted to their interests.

In short, we depend chiefly on the support of the farmers, and we hope to give them efficient support in return. It requires a good support to keep up a good agricultural newspaper.

ORGANIZE CLUBS.

It will be seen by our report of the Farmers' State Convention, that each precinct is invited to organize Farmers' Clubs, and send a delegate to the adjourned meeting of the convention to be held here the second Tuesday in June.

We request that notice of organization of each club, and the officers elected, shall be sent to us for publication at the time of organization.

The WILLAMETTE FARMER proposes to be the especial advocate of the farming interests of Oregon, and we invite correspondence on all matters that interest the farmer. We recognize that the chief interest of our paper lies in the information furnished in the correspondence of the farmers themselves.

Lastly—we request that new clubs send us new subscribers, and that our friends (and we have many kind friends) endeavor to help us to more subscribers, so that we can make the FARMER more valuable and useful.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.—Herman & Hirsch are on hand this week with the advertisement promised last week. Call and see them.

Breyman Bros. have received their full spring stock, Mr. Eugene Breyman having returned from San Francisco, where he laid in a large stock of goods with his usual taste, and at most favorable prices. They are provided with all sorts of merchandise suited to the country trade, and will no doubt receive their full share of it.

Hawley, Dodd & Co., Portland, have their usual advertisement for the spring and summer trade. Their stock of farm machinery is unrivaled. Look on the 6th page for their notice.

HARD TIMES.

The cry of hard times is heard in the land, and is repeated from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The spring trade in New York opens with less spirit than heretofore, because country merchants purchase with caution in view of the hard times which they know exists at home. In every city of the Union, to a greater or less extent, we hear of financial stringency, and here in Oregon we are told that money is scarce and times duller than they have ever been before.

We do not consider that this last complaint is literally true. During a few years past, we have enjoyed a remarkable season of prosperity, and by contrast with those years, we find the present one wanting in thrift, but, for all that, we are not lacking in essentials to prosperity, nor need we suffer from hard times, if we are both prudent and industrious.

During the three years just passed, a large amount of money has been disbursed among us for the building of railroads. That means of prosperity is of course curtailed with the completion of the roads, though railroad building is not yet ended in Oregon. During the two years previous to the present one, we have realized for our surplus products a fair price, in fact rather an unusual price, and the price would remain good, even now, if transportation had not advanced to an unreasonable figure and thus reduced the value of our products.

The farmers of Oregon can remember the prices received ten and twelve years since, and find that they are receiving better pay now than they had then. They have commenced in time to remove some of the causes of hard times, and we may expect as a practical result of the farmers' movement, that they will succeed in obtaining better prices another year, or at least that they will receive all that their grain is worth in the market, and save to themselves all the surplus profits heretofore made by speculators, middlemen, and warehouse men. They will also save on freights by combining to create competition, and these savings will create a handsome per centage in favor of the producer.

To insure good times we must carry out the spirit of the resolutions adopted by the Farmers' convention last week. We must encourage home industry wherever possible. We must establish manufactures in our own State, and so retain at home the vast sums of money we now send abroad for things we could make at home or do without. We must discourage extravagance. Extravagance consists of sending abroad money for that which we do not raise or make at home, or could do without. The United States are every year running in debt for luxuries bought of foreign nations. If we only imported as much as our exports would pay for, we should be in good circumstances enough, but we send abroad all the product of our gold and silver mines, and that even doesn't pay the bill, so our national securities go abroad, also, to settle the accounts Uncle Sam's sons and daughters run up for gew gaws and finery, and for wine, broadcloth, and other foreign wares.

We borrow money abroad to build our railroads with, also, and we can afford to do that, for means of cheap transportation serve to enrich the producer; but all our obligations abroad must now amount to a fearful sum, to over a thousand millions of dollars, and perhaps two thousand, so it becomes us as a nation to go slow, or we may soon hear a great financial crash about our ears. At the present time gold has advanced in price because tens of thousands of Americans are going abroad, pleasuring to Vienna, to see the great world's exposition there, and they are taking abroad a hundred of millions in gold to use for spending money.

Here in Oregon, we do the same things, on a lesser scale, that are impoverishing the nation and creating hard times. We must protect ourselves in several ways, to insure good

times. The resolutions of the Farmers' convention are sound, and we can obtain relief from many ills by carrying them out thoroughly. It is also necessary that we practice economy. And no doubt we are realizing the need of that without advice.

A most important question is: What can we manufacture and produce at home, on which we can realize without having to ship the same abroad? And again: What products of the least bulk will yield us the most income? If we can turn our wheat into bacon, it will be easier freighted abroad. If we can raise sheep as profitably as wheat, the wool will be easier sent to market. Freighters have a great deal to do with hard times in Oregon.

THE FARMERS' MOVEMENT.

The farmers of Oregon should be congratulated on the successful manner in which the movement has been conducted, and the harmony and judgment shown by the State Convention which met here last week. It is necessary that the various counties should organize precinct clubs, and be represented at the adjourned meeting of the convention to be held here the second Tuesday in June next. Let the farmers meet and form these clubs, and in the club meetings let them discuss all the questions that are being agitated over the whole of the west as well as here in Oregon. Let each precinct in the Willamette valley have a delegate present here in Salem on the second Tuesday in June, and we shall then be able to realize that they are indeed in earnest.

It was to be feared that in the zeal of their new endeavor, the members of the late convention would have committed some indiscretion, have attempted too much, or at least have said too much, but the record of proceedings shows that the utmost harmony prevailed, that those who were defeated in respect to their special views yielded cheerfully to the popular voice, and we must admire the caution that left the permanent constitution and by-laws for the State Union to be framed by select committees and acted on at a future meeting.

It was also wise not to appoint that adjourned meeting to be held during fair week. It has never been possible to transact any important business during that week, and it was wise to have some other time appointed.

If a Farmers' State Union is formed, as we have no reason to doubt, it will be within its province to attend to the storage and shipment of wool as well as wheat. Wool raising will be sure to greatly increase and the wool crop will always need to be handled well to insure the best returns. It will be as great an object for wool buyers to purchase in bulk of first hands, as for the farmers to sell direct to buyers. To control the wool crop of our State, and hold it for the highest bidder, will redound greatly to the interest of the wool grower.—Another thing, frauds in wool could be prevented in this manner. If committed by the first seller they can be detected, and the credit of our State can be protected from frauds committed in packing after the wool has been sold to speculators. We imagine that frauds are oftener committed so than by the wool grower.

It is a significant fact that movements of farmers for self protection, have taken and are taking place generally in the West. Their success has been assured, not only as to securing the full value of their products, but the Granges of Iowa even manufacture their own machinery. We have then the success of others as a basis for the organization of an Oregon Farmers' Union, and it must result favorably if well managed.

It is altogether for the interest of merchants and mechanics to co-operate with the farmers in all attempts at self protection. All are in the same boat together, at the mercy of the speculator and monopolist.—The prosperity of the farmer is the basis of the general wealth, and the town grows rich when the country

thrives. The farmers expect the merchants and mechanics to help the movement, and no doubt they will.

If any advice were needed as to the conduct of the movement, we should say: Go slow and sure, advance operations as fast as the way shows clear, profit as much as possible by the experience of Eastern States, and never attempt more than is absolutely necessary or than can be reasonably accomplished. New converts are sometimes overstocked with zeal and too much zeal is dangerous. Make no unnecessary war on any one, and as so far as possible use the capital now invested whenever it will work at a fair price.

There is a saying: "The Lord helps those who help themselves." The farmers of Oregon will realize the truth of it when their movement has borne fruit.

Sale of Shorthorns.

Hon. M. H. Cochrane, of Compton, Canada, the noted importer and breeder of Shorthorns, writes to a friend in Portland that "he has just concluded a sale of ten animals of the 'Bates' tribe, including his 'Duchesses,' for the sum of £10,000 sterling (\$50,000), three of them being calves."

Mr. Cochrane further states that he will now devote all his energies in that line to the "Booth" tribe, as he is convinced they are the best cattle for that, or any other country where meat of the best quality is the object, and thinks it is nonsense to talk about Shorthorns as milkers, when we can get Ayrshires at a much less price, and get more milk.

While these prices may appear to be decidedly "fancy," still it shows what has been and may be accomplished by careful and intelligent breeding, and will be of especial interest to the stock-raisers and breeders of Oregon, from the fact that Mr. S. G. Reed's extensive importation of Shorthorns in the fall of 1871 was nearly all purchased from Mr. Cochrane, and his entire herd enters largely into the "Bates" and "Booth" blood.

THE BOWIE WAGON.—One of the planks of the late Farmers' Convention urges the patronage of home industry. The Bowie wagon made in Salem, and advertised in our columns, is an Oregon manufacture, and the experience of nearly two years since the manufacture commenced, has established their value, and given them an enduring reputation. We visited the manufactory a day or two since, and learned that operations are actively commenced for the spring campaign, and farmers may depend on getting any vehicle they may require, made to order, and of such style as they prefer. Let us support Oregon manufactures when we can.

FUNERAL OF GEN. CANBY.—The remains of the late Gen. Canby were brought down from Roseburg by a special train, reaching Portland early Thursday morning. On Friday morning the funeral services took place at the residence of Mrs. Canby. At 12 o'clock, the remains were taken to Armory Hall, where at least five thousand people took a last look at the face of the illustrious deceased. The body was then removed to East Portland Cemetery vault, where it will remain until taken to the East for final interment. In compliance with the expressed wish of Mrs. Canby, there was no military or civic display, but the citizens of Portland generally closed their places of business during the funeral obsequies.

SOCIETY OF NATURAL HISTORY.—At a meeting held last Saturday afternoon, in Legislative Hall, for the purpose of organizing a Society of Natural History, Hon. S. F. Chadwick was chosen Chairman, and Syl. C. Simpson Secretary. A Constitution and By-Laws were proposed by Rev. Mr. Bowers, for a society to be called the Oregon Society of Natural History, which was adopted section by section. A permanent organization was then effected by the election of the following officers: Hon. S. F. Chadwick, President; Prof. T. M. Gatch, First Vice President; Syl. C. Simpson, Second Vice President; Rev. S. Bowers, Secretary; Rev. W. R. Stewart, Treasurer. The further election of officers was deferred until the next meeting of the Society, which will be held at 8 o'clock P. M., on the second Tuesday in May, at Legislative Hall.

The Modoc War.

Continued Fighting at the Lava Beds!

LAVA BEDS, 9 P. M., April 16.—During the night the troops held the same position occupied at sunset yesterday evening. A hotly contested fight took place on Colonel Green's left this morning. The Indians endeavored to get to the Lake for water but our troops succeeded in keeping them away.

A dispatch was read from Mason's camp at 7 A. M. saying that some Modocs had passed out on his left and were on his flank and rear. During the night the warriors under command of Major Thomas kept up a fire on the Modoc camp which kept them very much amused. The Indians could be heard shouting at an awful rate.

At 9 o'clock this morning the troops under Colonel Green were ordered to move forward from the position they had held during the night. The whole line moved with a cheer, and at 10 A. M. had reached the top of the ridge next to Jack's camp, which was so hotly contested yesterday, and which had been nearly deserted to-day. When our men had gained their position cheers could be heard along the whole line. Orders were then given to sweep the lava bed, and a dispatch was sent, by signal, to Bernard ordering him, in case the Modocs had got out on Col. Mason's left, to charge them at once with the cavalry and give them no rest.

At 10 o'clock A. M., our troops had gained considerable ground, and firing is becoming more frequent. The general impression is that the lava bed is ours.

Orders have been given to Mason to move his right forward as rapidly as possible, and join Col. Green's left. This will cut the Modocs off from water. From 10 to 12 o'clock there was considerable firing from the south of the lake. Only a part of the Modocs could have got on Mason's left, as the Indians can be heard in the vicinity of Jack's cave.

The mortars which have ceased firing since daylight, have been ordered to a new position within 500 yards of the cave and near the water of the lake.

At about 12 o'clock Colonel Green and Mason's commands effected a junction which entirely cut off the Modocs from the water. After this movement was effected occasional firing was heard at different parts of the line, and it was decided not to push our men on the Indians' stronghold, as we might lose many without killing an Indian, and if we could keep them from water they would have to leave their position and we could not find them in a stronger one.

Our losses in the two days' fight has been five killed and ten wounded. The only officer yet wounded is Lieut. Eagan, Company G, Twelfth Infantry, flesh wound in the leg. He is doing well.

No junction has been formed between Green's right and Mason's left.

Five Indians only are reported killed, and of these we have some scalps.

None of our killed or wounded have yet fallen into the hands of the enemy.

It is evident that if our men can hold their position on the lake shore, Mr. Modoc will have to leave or surrender, as heavy fire of musketry is now going on. The Indians evidently are fighting for water. Every one who has seen our troops in action speaks of them in the highest terms.

The Latest.

From an Extra Daily Statesman issued last evening, we learn the following:

Some Modocs have escaped from the lava beds. A party of ten Modocs murdered Eugene Hovey near Peace Tent, taking four horses; Watson escaped. Excitement intense. Settlers being notified. Mail carriers who left yesterday morning brought no public dispatches. Notice of the mutiny was brought by Hendricks.

The Indians Hounded From Their Stronghold—Cavalry in Hot Pursuit.

YREKA, April 18.—Dispatches from the Lava Beds up to 6 P. M., the 17th, have been received. Our troops have possession of the Modoc stronghold. The Indians left for the hills southeast of the Lava Beds. The cavalry are in hot pursuit.

First sergeant of troop K, 1st Cavalry, captured Modoc battle flag. Scar-Faced Charlie and Seonschin are killed.

Fifteen Indians got between troops in the field and camp and killed Eugene Hovey of Yreka, scalped him and mutilated his body fearfully; taking four horses and one mule and left for mountains.

Our total loss of troops is five killed and twelve wounded. Meacham is improving rapidly.

The Warm Spring Indians were first in the stronghold. Killed and scalped all wounded they could find.

THE MODOC WAR.—We give full details on our second page of the foul murder of Gen. Canby and Rev. Dr. Thomas by the Modocs, and in our columns elsewhere will be found full details of military operations against these savages. The Indians have a stronghold, and fight with desperation, conscious that no quarter will be given them after their late fiendish treachery.

LIME.—Mr. J. N. Barker, of Douglas county, is now in town, with some samples of lime burned by him on his place, ten miles south of Roseburg, which he has submitted to the inspection of the Commissioners for building the State House. The lime has been tested, and proves to be of most excellent quality.

Cole's Valley, Douglas County, is expected to yield 60,000 bushels of wheat this year.