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Correspondence from Ohio.  
Editor Willamette Farmer  
The many letters of inquiry which I have received from citizens of Oregon (since my name first appeared in your pleasant columns), and several too who left Delaware county, prompts me to submit this communication for their perusal. And first, last Monday, the act of the Legislature of Ohio, constituting Delaware took effect and made it a city. That same evening, the Council, consisting of Messrs. Albright, Starr, Brown, Slough, and the Rev. W. T. Watson, met and set the machinery in running order, under high pressure.—And an ordinance abolishing the sale of all spirituous wills, will cause much smuggling and high-handed evasion, for old toppers don't wean easily.—The city, according to the charter, contains something over 7,000 souls, and by means of its public improvements, is rapidly enlarging in all directions. Its literary institutions (the Ohio Wesleyan Universities) contain substantially the soul of Methodism. Delaware is to the "Itinerant brother in cloth," what Mecca is to the Mohammedan, they must either reside in it, or visit it, annually. And here let me say, *passing*, that last week Bishop W. L. Harris paid the city a flying visit prior to starting on his Asiatic tour.

Delaware contains the finest Court House in Ohio, but the sovereign people know quite well how that came about. The city contains three banks, three printing offices, twenty dry goods establishments, twelve provision stores, and any number of low grogeries. Recent railroad changes has rendered Delaware the most important point on the road or roads that center in that place, and its round-house and machine shops are second to none in Ohio. Delaware, properly speaking, is the terminus of three railroads, and the misunderstanding betwixt the C. C. & C. R. R., and the Little Miami R. R., has through the instrumentality of the so called short line turned the tide of business all in that direction and left Columbus on the side track. Eighteen trains daily arrive at, and depart from Delaware, and the paymaster has here his heaviest job.—Six hundred and fifteen hands in the employ of the railroads, hail with joy the arrival of Sturgess, whilst others have reasons for blessing two large founderies, and two extensive flax mills, whose daily business furnishes them with remunerative toll. But the city grows wicked as well as good, and its instrumentalities for vice are quite equal to those for good. Its morals are not as good as when Holman knew it. Police records show that. The waters of its famous sulphur springs, so efficacious in healing the nations, are more effective when taken behind night's sable curtains, than in the broad glare of noonday, and careful estimates make it apparent that enough time is squandered in its four croquet parks to take proper care of all the crops raised in the county.

Of course Delaware is a literary city, "the light of the world, set on a hill," with more politicians than was included in the *Credit Mobilier* investigation, whilst nearly every man you chance to meet upon the street, wants to sell you a musical instrument, or teach you music. Or if it be Saturday, get an opportunity to ride out into the country and preach on Sunday. Some of the more sanguine in Delaware, who have property to sell, think that Delaware is that important point in prophecy, where the evangelization of this mundane sphere is to start from, and it does certainly look something that way, for over half the graduates of her Universities are not farmers, nor mechanics, but preachers. Of a truth you can say to your readers, Delaware is getting big, and wise, and wicked, and good, and of this, more anon.  
J. W., JR.  
Leonardsburg, O., May 25, 1873.

The experiment recently made in Ohio of placing women at the head of all the schools below the high schools, is pronounced a decided success. The instruction and discipline have been as good as formerly, there have been fewer difficulties between teachers and pupils, and fewer complaints have been made by parents against teachers.

The woolen mills at Brownsville, the Benton Democrat learns, are now running twelve hands, and manufacturing an excellent quality of cloth.

**Merino Sheep.**  
Col. Wm. W. Hollister, the great stock breeder of the Pacific slope, is a native of Ohio. Twenty years ago he left the Buckeye State, driving before him a flock of 800 sheep. As he proposed to drive the flock overland to California, his enterprise was regarded as impracticable. But he was stout of heart, and met with success. He arrived in Southern California with half the sheep he started with, but these 400 were carefully nursed, and they enabled him to set up in business as a wool-grower. The sheep increased rapidly, and Col. Hollister managed them so well that he is now a millionaire. His grazing farms number 100,000 acres of land, and the wool-growing animals can be counted by the thousands. The experience of such an eminent stock-grower must be valuable. Col. Hollister was recently interviewed by a correspondent of the Cincinnati Commercial, and in reply to the question what he considered the most profitable breed of sheep to grow on the Pacific coast, he said: "While I consider all things profitable for our State, the merino and different grades of merino seem best adapted to the large business; first, because the merino is more gregarious and herds better in bands; and second, because the merino, furnishing to the world, as it does, the great staple for the clothing wools, fills a large place in the economy of living. If this class of wool were greatly diminished, we should soon find out how small a space is occupied by the combing or long wools of the world. I have no way of finding out, to anything like a certainty, what is the proportion of strictly clothing wool to the combing, but think it is as seven to three, and perhaps even eight to two. Of course, you know that we have not enough of either. There is no danger of over-production in any kind of wool, nor doubt of continued profit in sheep husbandry for all time."  
Col. Hollister estimates the annual average increase of merino sheep, under fair conditions, at one hundred per cent.; but, on a large scale, he regards the business good when the increase is only eighty per cent. When the business is small enough to allow the proprietor to give it personal superintendence, the profits very naturally are greater than when it grows so large as to be intrusted to subalterns.

**Ladies in the Granges.**  
One of the most interesting features of the granges, is that not a single one can be organized without the companionship of ladies. No charter will be issued to organize a grange, even if a hundred of the best farmers want it, and ask for it, unless a certain number of ladies join. Their assistance and influence are needed. Their companionship will have a refining and elevating effect upon the sterner sex. They are equally interested with their husbands, brothers and sons in the good that can be accomplished. What aids in giving relief to the farmer, will give relief to his wife and daughters. They give tone and elevation to the proceedings of the granges. They furnish a social feature to the granges which will give permanency and stability to them. Each grange meeting there will be a social festival, a neighborhood visit, a green spot in the Sahara of the farmer's life. By all means let every grange encourage the attendance of ladies. Let their be as many lady members, as male members. It will increase the interest in them and help to elevate our noble profession to that high standard we desire to reach. With woman's influence with us we shall have no such word as fall. Her influence is for good, and we are glad to know she will exert it in behalf of those who are nearest and dearest to her.—*Colman's Rural World.*

**WILL THE SHEEP BUSINESS BE OVERDONE?**—A correspondent asks if we "think there is danger of the sheep interest being overdone?" The question is not fairly put. If he asks us to indicate some line of business which will never meet adversity, we can tell him very quickly that we know of no such business. Everything must have its ups and downs, its alternating sunshine and showers, and the sheep business is no exception. But we do not know of an industry which rests upon a more legitimate and safe basis. To start with, the production of wool is not equal to the wants of the country; and the growth of our population is such that it requires each year the product of 4,000,000 more sheep than it did the year before.—*National Live-Stock Journal.*

**The Origin of Mountains.**  
Professor James D. Dana contributes to the "American Journal of Science and Arts" a very learned treatise on some results of the earth's contraction from cooling, including a discussion of the origin of mountains and the nature of the earth's interior. In speaking of the kinds and structure of mountains, he draws a hitherto neglected distinction between: 1. A simple or individual mountain range or mass, which is the result of one process of making, like an individual in any process of evolution, and which may be distinguished as a monogenetic range, being one in genesis; and 2. A composite or polygenetic range or chain made up of two or more monogenetic ranges combined. Appalachian chain—the mountain region along the Atlantic border of North America—is a polygenetic chain, and consists of several other ranges, principal among which are the Green Mountains, the Alleghenies, and the Highland, including the Blue Ridge and Adirondacks. Of these, the first was completed essentially after the lower silurian era, the second immediately after the carboniferous era, and the third are pre-silurian in formation.

Mountain-making is shown to be very slow work. After the beginning of the primordial, the first period of disturbance of North America of special note was that at the close of the lower silurian, when the Green Mountains were finished.—This interval between the beginning of the primordial and the metamorphism of the above range was at least 10,000,000 years. The next epoch of great disturbance in the same Appalachian region was that at the close of the carboniferous era, in which the Alleghenies were folded up; and, altogether, it is stated that the Appalachians were at least 35,000,000 years in making. The displacements of the Connecticut river sandstone and the accompanying igneous ejections, which occurred before the cretaceous era, took place for some 7,000,000 years after the Appalachian revolution. Thus it is demonstrated that the lateral pressure resulting from the earth's contraction required an exceedingly long era in order to accumulate force sufficient to produce a general yielding and plication or displacement of the beds, and to start off a new range of prominent elevations over the earth's crust.—*Scientific American.*

**Changes in River Beds.**  
In a report on the subject of water supply for the village of Yonkers, N. Y., published in the January number of the *American Chemist*, Prof. J. S. Newberry furnishes some interesting facts on the geology of the river beds, that will be of general interest. He says: "It is probably known to you that most of the draining streams of all the region between the Mississippi and the Atlantic are now running far above their ancient beds. This fact was first revealed to me by the borings made for oil in the valleys of the tributaries of the Ohio. All these streams were found to be flowing in valleys once deeply excavated but now partly filled, and in some instances, almost obliterated. Further investigation showed that the same was true of the draining streams of New York and the Atlantic slope. For example, the valley of the Mohawk, for a large part of its course is filled with sand and gravel, to the depth of 200 feet. In the Hudson water surface stands now probably 500 feet above its ancient level—the old mouth of the Hudson and the channel which leads to it being distinctly traceable on the bottom nearly eighty miles south and east of New York. The excavation of these deep channels could only have been effected when the continent was much higher than now. Subsequently it was depressed so far that the ocean waters stood on the Atlantic coast from 100 to 500 feet higher than they now do. During this period of submergence the blue clays in the valley of the Hudson—the 'Champlain clays'—were deposited, and the valleys of all the streams were more or less filled."

**THE Danbury News** fellow says: "The majority of women care very little about suffrage. If the backs to car seats could only be hollowed out so as to admit of their bustles lapping over, the ballot might go to thunder for all they care."