

# WILLAMETTE FARMER

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**NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.**

The date appearing after the printed name on the paper is the date of the EXPIRATION of subscription.

**NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.**

New York, Sept. 12.—An immense crowd visited the Capitol grounds, Brooklyn, this afternoon to witness the departure of the big balloon for Europe. The inflation commenced early this morning and continued till ten minutes past four, when the balloon suddenly swayed to the north and ripped half way round, with a great tearing sound, and fell flat upon the ground. The immense volume of gas which had been pumped into it (nearly four hundred feet) escaped at the same time, nearly suffocating those who stood near. Inspector Folk, Mr. Goodsell and Police Commissioner Briggs had but an instant before shifted their positions to the eastward, and thus escaped being buried in the netting and canvas. The crowd made a general rush toward the ropes with the intention of tearing the canvas into small pieces and carrying them off as mementoes, but a strong force of police drove them back. Mr. Stenier, who had a contract to fill the balloon said that it would be folly to attempt another inflation, as the balloon was not made of proper material, so the enterprise is abandoned for the present.

New York, Sept. 13.—Professor Donaldson, the aeronaut, who was to have sailed for Europe yesterday in the *Graphic* balloon, says that immediately upon the collapse of the first experiment Goodsell offered to begin at once the construction of a new balloon of silk, provided Donaldson would engage to make the European trip in it. The offer was accepted, and the balloon will probably be ready for him about the middle of October. The car, life boat and instruments which had already been provided will be used.

Washington, Sept. 13.—Preparations for observing the transit of Venus are proceeding with much vigor at the National Observatory. Instruments will soon be entirely completed. Prof. Newcomb, who has charge of the scientific section, is now in Europe on a mission connected with the work.

Philadelphia, Sept. 12.—The wool market is active, but not quotable higher. California fine medium, 30¢-35¢; California coarse, 28¢-33¢.

New York, Sept. 15.—A Washington dispatch says ex-President Johnson is expected in that city to-day, for the purpose of taking part in the controversy now going on respecting the trial and execution of Mrs. Surratt. He will, it is supposed, endeavor to controvert the statements of Judge Advocate General Holt on the point as to whether the Court's recommendation to mercy was presented to him or not.

London, Sept. 15.—Numbers of emigrants who left England for Brazil have returned, bringing accounts of their treatment. They declare that they have experienced great hardships ever since their departure from their homes, and that the promises made by agents of the Brazilian Government were broken.

Roseburg, Sept. 13.—A serious accident occurred here this evening. As the gravel train which has been gravelling between here and Oakland was crossing the Winchester Bridge, four miles north of Roseburg, it was thrown off the track by a brace which had slipped out of its place, breaking Mr. Hallett's leg and otherwise injuring him. A Chinaman was also badly hurt, supposed to be fatally.

The latest advices from Shreveport (La.) represents the yellow fever as unabated, and the distress in the city is unendurable. Of the six men in the telegraph office, five have taken the fever and two died. Internments average thirty or forty daily in a population of not over 4,000. All the physicians and nurses are worked down. The people of the country should know these facts and send aid to this suffering city. The fever is still raging. The weather is unfavorable. Sixty per cent. of those attacked die. There is great suffering in all classes of society for want of proper nursing. The citizens are doing all in their power to check the disease. The internments on the 14th numbered 23. There were many deaths night before last.

The wildest rumors prevailed Monday, at Memphis, with regard to the yellow fever. Trains leaving on the various roads were crowded with persons fleeing from the scourge.

The President of the Western Union Telegraph Company has ordered all managers of the company to send free messages relating to the relief of the citizens of Shreveport, and that contributions of money be received and transferred by telegraph without charge.

A young man named Y. M. Yarbrough had his leg broken near Clarke's Mill, in Cole's Valley, last Friday, by a fractious horse which he was riding rearing up and falling on him.

**Percheron Horses.**

Editor Willamette Farmer:  
During the past spring and summer I have met several gentlemen who remarked to me that the Percheron horse was proverbial for poor feet; that it had been proven where they were bred in the West; and that the Clydesdales were better in that respect, &c. My question was, How did you get your information? Have you seen the horses spoken of in the Western States? No; I saw it so stated in the *Am. Agriculturist*. It was a wonder to me that the editor of that paper should condemn the Percheron horse after recommending them for years, and having Mr. Du Huij's work on the Percheron horse, to his government, translated from the French for the American public, so they would learn the real worth and history of this stock of horses; a copy of which I have, and will give some quotations from. I put myself to the trouble to hunt up the article, and found it in number for February, 1873, page 58, as follows:

"THE PERCHERON HORSE.—After extended trial, the Percheron horse is found wanting in the most desirable qualities that would fit him for general use on the farm. In the Western States he has been tested thoroughly, and found deficient in speed, soundness, speed, and intelligence. He fails in those points where failure is fatal to profit and usefulness, namely, the feet and legs; for a horse unsound in his feet is practically a dead horse; and the heavy bodies and soft bones and yielding tendons and muscles of this class of horses, predispose them to disease. The Clydesdale has been found preferable to the Percheron, where heavy horses are desired, as being hardier and of better constitution; but our climate, rendering, as it does, lightness and activity of body, good wind, spirit, and endurance indispensable, at the same time renders the slow, unwieldy animal quite unfit for our needs. The thoroughbred crossed on our best and largest native mares will give us exactly the qualities we need for the farmer or for the road, and will produce an animal that will outwork and outlive twice over any of the large imported stock."

The above does not appear to be editorial, but furnished by some other person, as I see on page 60, same number, an illustration of a trotting stallion called "Tearful," the same ideas are expressed. After speaking of the merits of the thoroughbred to produce our trotting stock, he says: "Coarse, heavy animals are slow, unintelligent workers, heavy and unprofitable feeders, continually subject to unsoundness in joint and limb, and of such falling constitutions that it is rare to find one entirely free from blemish or disease."

The owner of "Tearful," in whose interest, no doubt, the above articles were written, is a wealthy banker of New York. I have no issue with him about the thoroughbred to produce racers, trotters, and light fancy driving horses, but when he says "in the West the Percheron, after extended trial, is found wanting in the most desirable qualities that would fit him for general use on farms, and the Clydesdale is preferable," &c. This I know to be false in every particular.

The have been breeding the Norman and Percheron horse in Central Ohio the past twenty years, and in Illinois the past thirteen years. They have given better satisfaction than any other large horses ever used, and find always a ready sale. It is true they may not have as good or pretty a foot as the thoroughbred, but as to being worse than the Clydesdale I know is not so. Their limbs, bone, feet, and general formation will show to any unprejudiced person. I have a pair of mares—one full blood, in good condition, has weighed near 1,600 pounds; the other, three-fourths blood, in good condition, will weigh 1,800 pounds; each has had colts the past three springs; and both have done work on my farm, plowing, harrowing, working to resper and

mower, and hauling in the grain and hay. They have not had shoes on the past year, and did not appear to suffer any inconvenience.

I will now quote from Du Huij's work, that the public may know their reputation and history. The American compiler, in the preface, says:  
The Percheron horse no doubt stands first among the draft breeds of the world. His value has been thoroughly tested in this country, and the fact is established beyond a cavil that, with careful breeding, and probably an occasional renewal by the importations of fresh blood, the Percheron maintains his superior characteristics and impresses them upon his descendants of only one-fourth or one-eighth blood to a very marked degree. [This I know to be so from personal knowledge.—W. C. M.]

On pages 7 and 8 of the same author we have the following:

"To no ordinary strength, to vigor which does not degenerate, and to a conformation which does not exclude elegance, it joins docility, mildness, patience, honesty, great kindness, excellent health, and a hardy, elastic temperament. Its movements are quick, spirited, and light. It exhibits great endurance, both when hard worked and when forced to maintain for a long time any of its natural gifts, and it possesses the inestimable quality of moving fast with heavy loads. It is particularly valuable for its astonishing precocity, and produces by its work, as a two-year-old, more than the cost of its feed and keep. Indeed, it loves and shows a real aptness for labor, which is the lot of all. It knows neither the whims of bad humor nor nervous excitement. It bears for man, the companion of its labors, an innate confidence, and expresses to him a gentle familiarity, the fruit of an education for many generations in the midst of his family. Women and children from whose hands it is fed can approach it without fear. In a word, if I may dare speak thus, it is an honorable race. It has that fine oriental gray coat, the best adapted of all to withstand the burning rays of the sun in the midst of the fields—a coat which pleases the eye, and which, in the darkness of the night, allowed the postilion of former times to see that he was not alone—that his friend was making his way loyally before him. It is exempt, (a cause of everlasting jealousy among the breeders of other races,) always exempt from the hereditary bony defects of the hock, and, where it is raised, spavin, jardon, bone spavin, periodical inflammation, and other dreaded infirmities, are not known, even by name. This truly typical race would seem a myth did it not exist in our midst.—But every day we see, every day we handle this treasure—the magnificent gift of Providence to this favored region, to cause agriculture, that "nursing mother," to flourish, and, with agriculture, peace and abundance."

Also, on page 52: "The Percheron of the primitive type has a gray coat like the Arab, and, like him, an abundant and silky mane, a fine skin, and a large, prominent, and expressive eye, a broad forehead, dilated nostrils, and a full and deep chest, although the girth, with him, as with the Arab, is always lacking in fullness; more bony and leaner limbs, and less covered with hair than those of other draft-horse families. He has not, it is true, the fine haunch and line form of the shoulder, nor that swan-like neck which distinguishes the Arab; but it must not be forgotten that for ages he has been employed for draft purposes, and these habits have imparted to his bony frame an anatomical structure, a combination of levers, adapted to the work he is called upon to perform. He has not, I again acknowledge, such a fine skin as the Arab, nor his prettily rounded, oval, and small foot; but we must remember the fact that he lives under a cold climate, upon elevated plains, where nature gives him for a covering a thicker skin and a warmer coat, and that he has been for ages stepping upon a moist, clayey soil."

It is claimed in the work the above quotation is from that the Percheron is of Arabian origin, and has become a confirmed race or breed, hence his merit to stamp his offspring with his peculiarities. If I am correctly informed, the English and American thoroughbred, that has become a confirmed race, and by careful breeding has produced some of the fastest horses in the world, originated from the Arabian (to give

stamina and solid form and constitution), and the Spanish (more after the greyhound style, for speed.)

It is a settled point that the thoroughbred turf-horse is the only family to produce racers; but, for trotters, carriage, stage, hack, omnibus, street-cars, and good saddle-horses, we want a dash of thoroughbred with some heavier stock, and this the Percheron offers, as they are, as quoted above, considered to have the best action of any other large horses known in the civilized world.  
W. C. M.  
Ashland, Oregon, Sept. 10, 1873.

**News Items.**

The Athenaeum, a Young Ladies' Literary Society connected with the University at Salem, has elected the following officers to serve during the present term: Mary Starr, President; Sarah Cole, Vice President; Gertrude Holmes, Recording Secretary; Sarah Gosner, Corresponding Secretary; Elizabeth Kinney, Treasurer.

The Statesman was shown on Friday last at the office of the Secretary of State, a pair of socks manufactured from the wool of Angora goats. The yarn was spun on a flax-wheel, and the socks knit by an old lady 70 years of age. Careful inspection of the socks show them to be superior in every respect to those of the ordinary kind, and from appearances, they will wear a greater length of time.

Farrel Beeler, formerly of Linn County, now of Ochoee, had the misfortune to be bit by a rattlesnake, while he was binding grain a few days ago. He describes the sensation of the bite as akin to the shock produced by an electric battery. He was several hours getting to the house, though only a short distance from it. It is thought he will recover, as he is now getting better.

A force of fourteen men are at work on the new and pile-driver of the A. F. Company at Astoria. They intend to complete it by the 25th inst. The new well will be 55 feet long, 20 feet long, 20 feet beam and 34 feet depth of hold. The gins of the pile driver will be 65 feet high.

On Thursday evening of last week, Deputy R. P. Olds organized a Grange at Milton, on Walla Walla River, Umatilla County, called the Milton Grange. D. M. Drumbeller is Master, and Thos. K. McCoy, Secretary.

H. H. Luse, adverse claimant of the town-site of Marshfield, as against Mrs. Haeker and Webster, has appealed the case to the Secretary of the Interior at Washington.

Sam. Tillard, living about five miles east of Albany, raised fifty-five bushels of wheat on one acre of his farm this year.

Lieutenant Bouteille, for many years connected with the military at Fort Klamath, has been ordered to Fort Lapwai, Idaho Territory.

Henry Myers, of Albany, who was run over by the fire-engine a short time ago, is not likely to recover from the effects of the accident.

Mr. O'Hara, near Weston, Umatilla county, has raised a crop of oats this season which averaged fully 125 bushels to the acre.

The Grange movement is progressing finely in Walla Walla Valley. Up to last Saturday four Granges were organized and in full operation.

Mr. Randall, civil engineer, expects to get through his survey on the Hog's Back in two or three days.

The new steamboat being built opposite Toledo, for Yaquina Bay, will be ready to run in about two weeks.

The distance between Astoria and Cape Disappointment is fifteen miles, and from Astoria to Clatsop, seven miles.

Capt. Flavel's new pile driver commenced work on Mr. R. Hobson's new wharf, at Astoria, yesterday.

Mr. Sales, of Young's River, raised an onion on his farm which measured fourteen inches in circumference.

Mr. Charles Burnham, of Washington County, had his arm badly injured by a threshing machine a few days ago.

Jonathan Cevid of Yaquina Bay had his leg broken in two places last week by the falling of a tree.

The frame of the new steamboat at Marshfield is going up rapidly and she bids fair to be a fine looking craft.

The Northwestern Stage Company will pay out in Eastern Oregon this Fall, for grain, hay and straw, about \$90,000.

The yield of oats on Burnt River is about fifty bushels per acre.  
Seventy-five students are in attendance at the State Agricultural College.  
The Lane County Court has made a tax levy of seventeen mill on the dollar.  
The Ashland Woolen Mills are offered for sale.

**The Congressional Election.**

Are the issues that are really at stake in the coming election sufficiently marked in party programme. Is there more than one great issue, and is that well defined? Do not your readers, as the farmers and producers of this State, know and feel that this State and the nation are involved in a contest greater than the one of black slavery through which we have just passed?—that an iron-clad monopoly, more heartless, soulless, terrible, than the man-scourging demon we have just slain in the South, is now plying its lash over the backs of the white men of the North?

The first monopoly, the United States Bank, struck at the elective liberties of the people, by contraction and inflation of currency, by corrupting United States and State officials, and generally "by placing money where it would do the most good." The Roman firmness, and great name of Jackson, sustained by the people, was sufficient for the hour, and that great monopoly perished, leaving the people free, and still vigilant for their freedom.

The Railroad power, under national and State charters, is the second attack of the money monster upon the liberties of the people. In Illinois, Iowa, California, and other States, the people appreciate the issue, and are striking for freedom. They have to contest with Credit Mobiliers swindles, with "money put where it will do the most good," even in the pockets of our most consecrated and trusted Christian statesmen, with back-pay grabs and increased salaries, with corrupted courts and every parcel of legislation captured or besold. No wonder that Newton Booth cried out to the people of California, as he saw the perils that encompassed them, "revolution was left to them," that "they were two hundred thousand, and the railroad kings were but three."

The parties have put forth their candidates: will either of them go to Washington and work with the will of a patriot to put the transcontinental railroads under proper control of law? to regulate freights and passage, so that the people shall have cheap transportation, in pay for the concession of their patrimony, the public domain, to the building of those great public (not private) ways? Will either of them help to establish the principle, by declaratory law, that wherever private property is taken for public use, the public, by legislation, shall control that use? We want that principle, and the practice under it, thoroughly settled and established by the next Congress, and also within this State by the next Legislature of Oregon. Will our candidates speak out upon question, so that the voters may know. The platforms are weak, and do not come square up to the issue or the times. For myself, I hold my vote to the last hour, to cast it for the strongest anti-monopolist. I will not know any other issue while this great question is before the country. I care not for the person or the party of Smith or Nearth. If Nearth is the strongest anti-monopolist, and I vote for him, I do not endorse the doctrines and practices of the Democratic party, nor argue the principles of the Republican party. These old party matters are now history; they cannot be voted for or against. It is the country and its dangers that I am looking to. Men and parties sink into insignificance in this hour, and the farmers, producers, and laborers of Oregon are far ahead of conventions and parties. If the people can find where to strike, let the vote of Oregon tell our feelings on this occasion.

G. W. LAWSON.

The Hawkeye says: "Harvesting is about over in Lane county, yet the farmers are busy. The average grain yield per acre was larger than former years. We heard a farmer say that the wheat fields of this county would average 35 bushels per acre. The farmers are happy."

The Eugene Guard says: Last Saturday a little daughter, about eight years old, of Mr. David Coleman, of Sluslaw, was seriously hurt. She was riding a horse and leading another, both with the harness on, when she fell between them and was dragged about a hundred yards, resulting in serious internal injuries.