

CITY AND COUNTY.

WEDNESDAY, April 1.

SUIT FOR DAMAGES.—Proceedings have been commenced, for the April term of the Columbia county Circuit Court, by one Squire Bennet, of that county, vs. W. R. Dunbar, P. A. Owens, R. F. Maury, J. W. Porter, H. G. Sains, John Majors, Phillip Porter, Charles Caples, R. F. Giltner, and George Thing. The suit is an action for damages, and the complaint is based upon the following statement of facts: It is alleged that in May 1845, W. R. Dunbar, who was a lieutenant in the service, by order of Col. R. F. Maury, and advised and otherwise abetted by the other defendants named, assaulted and arrested said plaintiff, taking him to Vancouver, W. T., where he was confined in the guard house for a period of eight days; by which means he was greatly injured in reputation and business, and otherwise damaged to the extent of \$5,000; at which amount he lays his damages. Bennet was arrested for rejoicing over the assassination of Lincoln. Service has been had upon Mr. Dunbar, and he has employed Tilman Wood, Esq., to defend. Cronin & Hodgkinson, of Portland, are prosecuting attorneys.

HORRIBLE AFFRAY.—This morning two of our well known "first class hoodlums" got into an altercation about some fair damsel, while standing on the corner of Ferry and Front streets opposite Kinney's mills. From every words came blows, when one drawing a long sheath knife, the other at the same time drawing a small pistol, they went into each other "beautifully" one got a handsome wound on his left cheek while the other got a nicely perforated bullet hole in his right shoulder. The combatants were separated and taken to Woodworth & Hall's drug store where their wounds were carefully dressed. The number of people including the young men, relations, friends, acquaintances, reporters and others. The young men are getting along as well as can be expected "under the circumstances" but the crowd that went to the drug store, want to interview them for a few minutes outside of the city limits. It is fortunate, on the whole, that the 1st of April did not come but once a year.

FIVE FOR A HALF.—A spruce young gent, of the smart aleck persuasion, sauntered, in Billy Stanton's the other day and observed: "Hello! putting on airs, ain't ye?" Billy replied, "O, no," and then aleck said "I guess you don't know me. Well, I've grown and improved a good deal since I left here, and I hardly expected anybody would know me." Then he inquired if he had any cigars at two for a bit. Billy said he had none at that price, but had some that he sold at the rate of three for two bits. "Well," said aleck, "I suppose you won't object to selling me five for a half." Billy told him not at all, and set out the box. He picked out five, and down the half and walked away as well satisfied as if the remainder of the box had been thrown in.

GOING EAST.—Rev. R. W. Stewart, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in this city, is to go East to-morrow morning to attend the annual assembly of the Presbyterian church, to be held in St. Louis. He will stop over at Eugene City, probably one day, and attend the Presbytery at that place, after which he will continue his journey overland. After the adjournment of the assembly, Mr. Stewart will probably visit Pittsburg, Baltimore, Washington and other Eastern cities. He will be absent about three months; during which time his pulpit in this city will be supplied by the Presbytery. Rev. John Chan, late of Pittsburg, now of Olympia, will occupy the pulpit next Sabbath.

TEMPERANCE CONVENTION.—The following resolutions were adopted at the State Temperance Convention held at Portland, yesterday: Resolved, That we recommend that in all counties of this State mass temperance meetings be held at the county seats on Saturday, April 25, 1874, to nominate temperance officers for county and Legislative officers, and elect delegates to attend a State Convention, to be held at Portland on Wednesday, May 6, 1874, to nominate State Officers and a Congressman, and further: Resolved, That a State Central Committee, be elected, whose duty it shall be to issue calls and carry out the spirit of these resolutions.

State Com. Messrs. Clinton Kelly, E. W. Ryan, N. A. Howe, W. G. Welch, Wm. McLeod, Geo. Dimmick, were appointed State Com.

FIRST LAND PATENT.—D. H. Murphy county clerk recorded a few days since the first land patent ever issued by the United States for the Territory of Oregon.

It was issued during the administration of James Buchanan to King Hibbard and Nancy Hibbard. The land is now owned by their son, Mr. T. R. Hibbard living on the coast. Until recently, it was deemed unnecessary to place it on record.

GENEROUS.—Mrs. Elizabeth Hatt of South Astoria, who so unfortunately lost her cow a week ago, was much surprised upon the presentation to her of another, a day or two since, by several of her neighbors who had joined together and, by subscription, raised a sum sufficient to buy a cow as good as the one which was killed. The lady knew nothing of the action until the presentation was made, when she expressed feelings of great gratitude for the kindness of her neighbors.

THE LAST DAY.—Yesterday was the last day on which our sportsmen could slaughter wild game with impunity, and judging from the score or more of nimrods we saw full equipments, frantically bent on getting out of town, it must have been well indeed. Emmet Williams was the most successful one we have heard of yet. He brought in eleven grouse and two greyrels.

STRANGE CIRCUMSTANCE.—Uncle Bob Kinbold us, this morning, that he had just

had six men together the oldest of whom was eighty-three, and the youngest sixty-nine; the combined ages of the six being four hundred and seventeen years. The six gentlemen were himself, Daniel Waldo, Peter Bilyeu, Capt. English, Geo. Wagnon, and Gov. Jackson.

THURSDAY, April 2.

IN COSTUME.—During the winter the ladies of Salem—a few of them at least—have met weekly and devoted an evening to Shaksperian readings, rather exclusively, leaving the gentlemen to study the great bard by themselves. A gentlemen's club has been organized for the same purpose, and the two societies have made a pleasant progress, gravitating, of course, towards each other. There was a reunion of the two, last evening, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Bowman, planned originally for a merely social evening, but eventually assuming the features of a masquerade, so that by common consent the ladies and gentlemen of the two clubs agreed to come together in costume and let their Shaksperian readings take shape. The host and hostess received their friends rather grotesquely. The lady presented herself to them as "Fire and Flame," and the gentleman as "Don't Bolder Me," with the music staccato'd all over his person. But neither fire and flame nor such a motto as that discouraged the throng of masqueraders who were announced as follows: Ellen and Nellie C. were "Flower Girl" and "Daisy;" Mrs. Geo. H. J. was "Apple Woman;" Miss A. (not Eve) was charmingly arrayed as "Snow Maiden;" Mrs. E. M. W. was a "German Peasant Girl" to perfection; Elva B. was a "Gypsy" and told fortunes with the happiest effect; Gertrude M. as "Ophelia" and Mrs. M. as "Spanish Lady;" Jenny S. was "Spring;" Mrs. Mattie S. was "Snow Flake," and her sister Emma G. made a "Scotch Lass" a Highlander might be proud of. Marian and Hattie C. were "The Starry Hours" and "A Huntrass;" Georgie C. "Pocahontas;" Dora H. "Night;" Lena W. "Morning;" Maria S. "Fairy Queen;" Dora S. and Minnie J., were "Waiting Maids;" Clara Watt as "Music;" Mrs. W. W. M., as a "Nymph;" Mrs. Hattie C., and Mrs. Ed. H., were in "Domino." Many of the ladies were costumed with exquisite taste and the majority of them were quite impenetrable in their disguise.

There were some adies and a number of gentlemen present in plain dress, and of the latter who wore costumes, Prof. A. L. F. was quite elegantly got up as Falstaff's "Prince Hal"—Henry IV.;—E. M. W. dropped the job office and took up the role of "Dr. Holloway" of ointment fame; Mr. S., dusting off the flower of Salem mill's became a capital "Othello;" Bliss R. showed the bliss of an "English Farmer;" our Frank G. was extended and developed into a full paunched "Boss Tweed;" the other one was a smart looking "Colored Gentleman;" Gus D. was a "Sailor Boy;" Eliaborn W., was a "Big Top" well arrayed; O. D. D., was also in the same line of business, and H. H. G. was thoroughly equipped and disguised as "Modoc, Captain Jack." A. T. Y. made an appearance in "Sheet and Pillow Case" that was entirely becoming; Somebody personated the "Daily Graphic;" and Mart C. was "Doctor Ferguson." After masquerading awhile the characters were unmasked and recognitions were quite amusing. The evening was pleasantly spent and the sport was harmless mirth, while the social features of the occasion were all that could be desired.

AFTER MANY DAYS.—Fifty-nine years ago there was an administrator's sale near St. Louis, Mo., at which the widow put in a bid for a favorite horse which she desired to retain for her own use, but a surly fellow who took a fancy to own the horse himself, bid against her, and when remonstrated with, answered with an oath that the widow had no more rights than anybody else. That was in the early part of the century, about the year 1816, just after the second war with Great Britain, and St. Louis was only a smart town, headquarters of the fur trade, resorted to by frontiersmen and wild adventurers. Missouri was the most western territory, beyond which there was no trace of civilization, and indeed there was not much to spare there. Looking on at the sale was a young, sturdy-built fellow of twenty-five, who remonstrated with the bidder and wound up with a most cogent whipping which the bidder received at his hands and then withdrew his bids, which sort of argument was popular in those days as was evidenced by the admiring crowd which gave a hearty verdict in favor of the widow and her champion. So the widow retained her family nag and many a ride she took with her boy "Bob," who was only 18 months old at the time, and as the century went sliding along the well oiled grooves of time and Bob grew appreciative, she told him the frontier story of the purchase of the nag. As years made "Bob" a man he and probably his mother pulled up stakes and pushed westward, transferring the household gods from the shores of the Mississippi to the banks of the Yamhill. Bob was one of those who got their start in Yamhill and throve there apace, and found himself at mature years with sons and daughters about him, and like a sensible man moved to Salem and throve even better, until finally his purse weighed nearly as much as he did, and still he did not forget the traditions of his youth. And that champion pugilist also came west and settled in Oregon and throve for awhile, and one day, even so many years ago, he thought Oregon was not so good a country as some others, and when he had fully reached the three score and ten allotted to man he gathered his family about him, almost as numerous as old Noah's—and went prospecting for a better country. Of course he didn't find it, simply because it doesn't exist this side the ether, and when four score years, almost, had piled thin wrinkles upon him, he came back to finish his days

with us, minus most of his spare cash. Today the infant of 1815 is three score and the sturdy champion of widows rights of those days is white haired and howed by the snows and frosts of eighty-four winters, and we happen to learn the fact that young "Bob" once, old "Bob" now, in memory of that circumstance of value of the years bygone, has given something of his plenty to relieve the necessities of the hero of our story. It is well done; it is timely, even if it happens "after many days;" yes after very many days.

AN UNFORTUNATE JOURNEY.—Some time ago we published an item in reference to a small colony of persons who were on their way to this State in company with Dr. J. C. Applewhite. Since then we have learned that the company met with great misfortune, in the way of sickness on the route. At Omaha all the children in the party were taken down with measles, and were sick during the remainder of the journey to Portland. Here one of the ladies was prostrated with a severe attack pneumonia; and shortly afterwards Dr. Applewhite was taken down with typhoid pneumonia, and for some days his recovery was extremely doubtful. Last Saturday Dr. Dawne went to Portland, in response to a telegram, and finding him very low, immediately took steps to secure for him that care and treatment which his case demanded. Dr. Applewhite has a good many acquaintances in this city, and some friends farther up the valley who came through with his party, all of whom will be glad to know that he is better and still improving, though not yet out of danger.

FEAST OF PASSOVER.—The Jewish feast of Passover began at sundown last evening, and will last for a period of seven days; being observed by those of the Jewish faith by the eating of unleavened bread. The institution is commemorative of the deliverance of the Hebrews in Egypt, at the passage of the destroying angel over the land. The first and last days of the feast are the most strictly observed, and in many places no business is done on those days.

GUN BURST.—Ed Terry had a very narrow escape from injury Tuesday afternoon, by the bursting of a double barreled shot-gun in his hands. He is unable to tell what caused the gun to burst, and only knows that when he fired it the charge came out about half way between the breach and muzzle, causing the piece to recoil with such force as to roll him over two or three times and send the shot whizzing uncomfortably close to his head. Fortunately he sustained no injury.

WORK ON STATE CAPITOL.—A small force of brick masons, five or six in number, commenced operations on the State Capitol building yesterday, and the working season may now be said to have opened. A full force of workmen will not be put on for a while however, as preparations are not quite all completed, and there is no certainty that the weather is settled yet. But probably before this month closes operations will be in full blast on the capitol grounds.

FIRE.—The alarm of fire was sounded about ten o'clock last night and, as usual, the engines were out and flying through the streets towards the scene of the conflagration. But when the boys found out that it was in the vicinity of Champeno, they concluded they wouldn't go down unless they were sent for.

FRIDAY, April 3.

ASSIGNEE'S SALE.—A. B. Cosper, Esq., assignee of the estate of Oliver Pickard bankrupt, made a sale of the real property belonging to the estate yesterday, at Marion Station. The farm consisting of 450 acres, sold at \$13 per acre; and was purchased by Allen & Lewis of Portland. The warehouse sold for \$500 to Geo. McKay. The town lots, of which there were eleven, brought about \$20 apiece; the sale aggregated, for all property sold \$6,604. The bids were in all cases low; which may be attributed to the fact that it was a cash sale. Had the property been sold for one half cash and the balance on time, it would undoubtedly have brought a much better price.

WHITE PRINCE.—Mr. W. C. Myer, of Ashland, arrived in the city yesterday with the Percheron stallion White Prince, imported from France. This horse, with several of his colts, was here on exhibition at our last State Fair, and they all gave general satisfaction to those who examined them. Mr. Myer has brought this horse here to stand him for service, and may be found at Durbin's stables during the season. White Prince weighs, at this time, 1,800 pounds, and the horses of this stock generally will weigh proportionately, according to age, etc. Their chief merit is their combined action and size, which fits them for all kinds of service and thus enables them to supply a great desideratum in the community. See Mr. Myer's advertisement elsewhere.

STEAMER SAILED.—The steamer John L. Stephens sailed for San Francisco this morning at 5 o'clock. She carries away the following passengers: S. S. Whitman, E. W. Cooke, H. F. Price, Miss E. F. Thompson, Mrs. Lancaster, Miss Ida M. Squires, L. A. Dougherty, J. H. Garrigan, A. Wolf, Emil Frank, E. C. Protzman, Wm. Church, Wm. Rawlings and brother, W. R. McNeal and wife, Mrs. Rawlings, and two children, Miss C. Stump, Mrs. Browning, Jas. Paine, D. Kurtz, A. Hall, Mrs. S. S. Brownell, Mrs. J. H. Mitchell and family, Miss E. Levy, Wells Fargo & Co.'s messenger, and 15 in the steerage.

INTERMENTS.—Mr. H. Javens, who has charge of the Odd Fellows cemetery, informs us that there were seven interments in that cemetery during the month of March; four males and three females.

NOTARY PUBLIC.—Samuel Hughes, of Forest Grove, has been recommissioned by Governor Grover a Notary Public for Washington County.

PUBLIC LANDS DREDED.—Col. T. H. Cahn, Clerk of the Board of Land Commissioners, has executed deeds for public lands as follows: Wm. E. Dyer, 326.61 acres, School land, in Lane county; Peter Peterson, 138.15 acres, University land, in Polk county; Josiah C. Nelson, 160 acres, School land, in Yamhill county; C. E. Belcher, 40 acres, University land, in Washington county; E. D. Shattuck and Wm. R. Sewall, 160 acres, University land, in Clatsop county; Joseph Pennig, 314.90 acres, State land, in Jackson county.

INSURANCE LOSS MADE GOOD.—Mr. C. Weeks informs us that at the fire on Feb. 27th, when the residence of Mr. Phillips was consumed, his premises adjoining, were also injured, necessitating repairs, and that those repairs have been promptly made by the Home Mutual Insurance company of San Francisco, through their agent C. W. Royal, of this city.

COMMISSIONER OF DEEDS.—Wm. B. Hill, of Maryland was yesterday appointed by Governor Grover a Commissioner of Deeds for Oregon, to reside in Baltimore.

SATURDAY, April 4.

CAPTAIN RICE.

"Truth Stranger than Fiction."—A Short Sketch of a Singular Being—His Visit to His Mother after an Absence of Forty Years—His Eccentricities—Incidents, Etc., Etc.

There is no place on earth, where the novelist can find more material from which to weave a sensational romance than in many an isolated cabin on this north-west coast. Cabins rudely put up, occupied by men whose experiences if put in book form, would be filled with adventures in the mines, with savages, hairbreath escapes from wild beasts. Men who were rich in "dust" one day and the next, living on beans "straight" Who have spent years with their blankets, pan and pick prospecting out of the way places for "big strikes." Men who left their homes years ago in the flush and vigor of young manhood, expecting to realize in a few short years a fortune, and return to the land of their nativity to live the balance of their lives in luxurious ease. Many of these early adventurers have had at times large "stakes," enough to have kept them in the States a good many "rainy days;" but it was not enough, and what they had made went in attempting to make more. After several ups and downs of this kind, spending the most valuable portions of their lives, the average miner gets discouraged and "down on his luck" and quietly subsides into a small rancher, or travels around the country working now and then, just enough to keep himself in food and clothing. Upon first coming to this Coast they kept up a regular correspondence with their relatives and friends at home, but after a while the letter writing slackens, by degrees, until finally it ceases altogether. There are thousands on this side of the Rocky mountains to-day that have not heard directly from their relatives for years, and who have doubtless been mourned as dead by some fond mother for many long years, that would give worlds did she know that her absent boy was still alive.

There is living within a few miles of this city, not far from the banks of the beautiful Willamette, an old miner whom we shall call Captain Rice. His house a comfortable log one, is situated in a little grove of second growth fir trees, under which he has for the use of himself and an occasional caller a semi-rustic seat, where on a pleasant sunny afternoon you always find him, if alone, dreamily poring over some old volume of history or romance or reading the current news of the day (for he takes several papers). His little farm of twenty acres, with a couple of cows, a porker or two, and lots of chickens, afford a comfortable if not luxurious living for himself and his companion—a large Newfoundland dog. Inside of his cabin everything is as neat as wax. The busiest and neatest housewife in the world could not find any fault or a speck of dirt on the premises.

Forty years ago this spring the Captain, then a young man of twenty, bade his mother (his father had then been dead several years) good bye, gave his little sister a parting kiss, and promising his younger brother a handsome present when he came back, sailed from New York for Liverpool as a hand "before the mast." The vessel was wrecked off the coast of Ireland and out of the crew but himself and two others were saved. Arriving after some little hardship at Liverpool penniless, he fell in the hands of one of those land sharks, that keep sailor boarding houses in all large seaport towns, who after he had run up a good board bill for a consideration, managed to drug him, and he woke up to find that he had been "shanghaied" on board of an East India bound vessel. The ship was under easy sail going down the English Channel, when he was mustered with others in a like fix, made to sign the articles and put on duty.

The next fourteen years of Captain Rice's life was spent in the coasting trade on the Chinese coast making short trips to the various stations of the East India Company. While engaged in the East Indies he wrote several letters home but getting no answer it is doubtful if the letters were ever received. In January 1849, the Captain shipped for New York via San Francisco and Cape Horn from Calcutta. Arriving at San Francisco and learning of the gold excitement, he left the vessel and started for the mines. He met with the usual success of the early pioneers. Making during the few years following, thousands and losing thousands; making money one week to lose it in some Utopian scheme the next. Thus passed away twenty years of his life when he found himself growing old—Crow feet were planting their foot prints in the corners of his eyes, his hair growing gray with hardship and age. No longer being able to undergo the

rough life of his earlier years he sought out and found the little spot on which he now lives so contentedly, resolved to spend his few remaining years in uninterrupted enjoyment.

But now comes the most remarkable portion of Captain Rice's life. Learning incidentally last summer that his Mother, brother and sister were still living, an irrepensible desire to see them came over him. Leaving his cabin in charge of a neighbor he started for New York where he arrived in due time. Upon enquiry he found that his brother was the Master of one of the famous "Black Ball" line of clipper ships running between New York and Liverpool, and that the vessel was there at her berth in Burling slip. Going on board early in the morning, he lounged around the decks until his brother made his appearance, when after taking a good long look at him, he walked ashore and made his way to Brooklyn when his mother and sister resided. For three long days he watched the doors of the house. At the end of that time one sunny afternoon his aged mother of eighty seven years, accompanied by his sister, came out for a short walk.

The captain passed them and met them several times, and who can tell his thoughts as he looked upon their faces after forty years separation. He says that the impulse to make himself known was "hard to fight against." About the "toughest spot he ever was in" but he succeeded in not "making a fool of himself." What would have been the feelings of that mother and sister could they know that on that pleasant afternoon they had met the long lost wanderer, can better be imagined than described.

The same evening Captain Rice took the cars at Jersey City, for his home upon the Willamette, where in due time he arrived having been absent a little less than a month.

The Captain readily dropped into his old habits, and the way-farer who passes his cabin and accepts of his hospitality, will find a genial old man with rare conversational powers, abounding with scraps of adventure taken from his own life. There he lives, calmly and peacefully, awaiting the great change that comes to all, sooner or later. He has his arrangements all made for that event, and his only wish is, that when he is gone that his body shall be laid upon the banks of the beautiful river that flows past the little cabin where he has passed the happiest portion of his life.

TO LOAD AT ASTORIA.—Kinney & Co. have chartered the British ship Vermont, with capacity to carry 1300 tons, which will soon arrive at Astoria, and there load for some European port. They have grain and flour for her loading which will most of it be sent direct from the Upper Willamette river, to the Farmer's warehouse at Astoria, ready for shipment. The Vermont will be the largest ship that ever loaded in the Columbia river, and also the first one that ever took on her entire loading at the mouth of the river. She will be loaded on a contract made by Salem Mills Company, which company seems to have the enterprise to test important questions relating to Oregon commerce.

CHALLENGE ACCEPTED.—Several weeks since a challenge to a debating contest was received by the Alka Society, of Willamette University, from the Philomatheans of Portland. At the meeting of the Alkas last evening action was taken upon the matter, and it was decided to accept the challenge. The details of the debate have not yet been arranged, but will be made known in due time.

SALES.—The News speaks of the suit of Squire Bennet vs. Lieut. Dunbar and others, as having been commenced some seven years ago but virtually dismissed; and says the "gudgeons" have all bit at it as an April-fool catch. The News man is the worst gudgeon we know of, as he is the only one sold; the first service in the case having been obtained but a few days ago.

MONDAY, April 6.

MARION COUNTY INDEPENDENT CONVENTION.

The Convention was called to order by Hon. John Minto, at ten o'clock this forenoon.

On motion, John P. Cole of Lincoln precinct was made temporary chairman and Messrs. John Berry and John Hunt Secretaries.

On motion of Hon. Geo. P. Holman a committee of one from each precinct was selected on Credentials.

The following committee was selected, S. Farrar, Wm P. Pugh, T. H. Crawford, Saml Brown, G. W. Hunt, T. R. Smith, W. H. Reese, J. W. Grim, B. Magnus, H. L. Hunsaker, Chas Miller, T. Goodrich, W. T. Hall, A. Thompson, W. H. Dasby, G. W. Dimmick.

On motion Convention adjourned half an hour to give committee on credentials time to report.

At eleven o'clock the meeting was again called together.

Committee on credentials reported the following persons as entitled to seats, report adopted.

Silverton.—T. W. Daventport, John Hunt, Wm Simpson, A. Thompson, H. Warren, L. L. Mesher, J. Davis, L. Cox, L. F. Isenhart by Wm Simpson proxy.

North Salem.—Delos Jefferson, Chas Claggett, John Brooks, H. L. McNary, S. R. Scott, Wm P. Pugh.

Bateville.—D. J. Pendleton, W. H. Reese, J. J. Blovens.

Marion.—T. H. Hunsaker, J. Parrish, D. Robbins.

Woodburn.—P. L. Kenedy, Jos Smith, C. H. Adams, G. W. Dimmick.

Jefferson.—A. C. Miller, F. Stiewer, Wm Stewart, Wm Pate.

Lincoln.—H. Smith, W. H. Baker, Guyon Gibson, W. H. Daly, J. P. Cole.

Farfield.—J. N. Skaffe, F. Loos.

Sublimity.—G. S. Downing, John W. Greenstreet, John Downing, E. T. Perkins, Wm Smith, G. W. Hunt.

Labish.—Wm M. Collard, T. Goodrich, J. E. Brooks.