

LOANING PUBLIC MONEY.

Under this heading the Chicago *Tribune* has an editorial of late date, which we publish in full, and which relates to a subject of interest to the people of Oregon at the present time. The State of Oregon always has a large amount of funds in hand, and will have more and more as time passes on.—There may be no reason to complain of the mis-use of funds, but that is a matter liable to result in trouble here as elsewhere. The question was put in our hearing the other day, Why not loan the State funds to responsible bankers who will pay fair interest and give abundant security? and we submit it for consideration without argument, save to call attention to the amount that might be so saved by the State, and to the public advantage of having money in use rather than to have it locked up in State vaults. The Treasurer should be secured in possession of a fair salary, such as incorporated companies pay for similar services of a competent financial agent, and there should be an examining board to which he should be accountable at any moment for every dollar of State money. This board could act with him in making loans of State funds, if such a system were adopted. In the United States Treasury at Washington any department is liable at any time to be inspected without notice, and the truth of its daily balances be thus verified. Similar guards and checks should be used against every important disbursing officer.

We give the article from the columns of the Chicago *Tribune* as follows:

"The papers in Pennsylvania, of all parties have called attention to the annual statement of the Treasurer of that State, made July 1, and are pointing out how that official statement must necessarily be a lie. In plain English, they charge that the money of the State is loaned out to banks and other persons for the profit of the State Treasurer or somebody else. Over in Michigan there is the same public discussion. The Treasurer of that State had in his hands on the first of July something over \$1,000,000, and the weekly balances during the year preceding that date have averaged \$900,000. It is conceded that this money has been loaned at interest, and now there is a demand that the abuse shall be broken up. The remedy proposed is that the policy of keeping a million of dollars surplus on hand be abandoned, or that the money not needed be invested in United States securities, the interest to be turned into the State Treasury. The present State Treasurer of Michigan is not by any means the originator of this system; it has some down to him from a long line of predecessors, and the system is part of the scheme by which parties seek their own advancement at the cost of the State."

The loaning of balances of public money in the State Treasuries is, however, not confined to the two States named. An accident led to a revolution of the same fact in Iowa, and in both States there was a large defalcation. It is generally supposed that the practice prevails everywhere and extends to local Treasurers as well as to State Treasurers. The change in the local offices in Iowa by the elections has fully uncovered several Treasury vaults that no longer contained the money that should have been there. So in this State, and in Indiana and Wisconsin, and in several other States, a change of officials disclosed that the public money had been loaned out and had not been returned.

We have had in the Treasury of Illinois for several years a very large balance. We do not mean to say that any portion of it has ever been loaned or deposited in Springfield or New York, or elsewhere on interest. Nevertheless, when the salary of the State Treasurer was "\$1,250 a year and no more," and he had to pay his expenses, there was always a loss of compensation for the office. A certain number of years ago the Treasurer of this State resigned, and the supposed reason was that the public money had been loaned out to various banks and individuals who could not return it, and that the "party" had to put a new man in and prevent an exposure. The same thing is likely to occur at any time when the public money is thus recklessly handled for personal profit.

FROM A TAX-PAYER.

While we cannot agree without sarcasm as to the policy of dispensing with a night watchman at the Court House we cannot refuse to give his letter a place in our columns as requested. The Court House cost the tax-payers of Marion county too much money not to take proper care of it and take every precaution against fire etc. And the idea that the jailor can attend to his many duties during the day and watch the building at night is too "much pork for a shilling." Marion county in such matters ought not to be a "pound foolish and penny wise."

The present night watchman isn't only at odds to the particular duties of a watchman but keeps the halls, offices and classics in order. SALEM, July 30th, 1873.

Mr. Wm. Record, Sir, during the recent political canvass promises of "refuge and re-trenchment" were freely made by all parties, and one was more free in this particular than Mr. John Judge Peebles. Now I think it is about time that we saw some signs of the "good fun" coming; therefore in behalf of the tax-payers of Marion county, I would ask why is there a man employed at the Court House two dollars per night to watch Billy Barker? "for who?"

The County Commissioners must know this matter costs the county nearly \$1,000 a year for lights, fire and pay. If this item has to be kept up I think we had better have kept the old Court House. The Sheriff is the person to look after the prisoners and take care of the jail and if an extra watch is required I say let the Sheriff pay for it. I call attention to this matter through the *Records*, it being an independent journal.

TAX-PAYER.

A TRIP TO TILLAMOOK.

Through Polk and Yamhill—Over the Moxo-tans—Taking Dinner with a Salem Party —on the Beach—Etc., Etc.

On the afternoon of the 16th Mr. H. W. Wilson and wife left Salem for a trip to the Tillamook beach. They spent the first night at Mr. Tellier's in Polk county and were joined by Mr. and Mrs. T. and daughter in their excursion next morning.

Their trip through Polk and Yamhill counties was a delightful one, the farmers on the line of their route were just commencing haying and harvesting and from indications Mr. Wilson thinks that the crops in those counties are unusually large.

The first night's camp was pitched in a beautiful grove upon the banks of the classic Yamhill. On the following day while at dinner they met Judge B. F. Bonham, Wm. Wade and Major Lord who were on their way home from attendance on the Tillamook County Court. A social chat while the whole party took a picnic dinner was enjoyed by all. Camping the following night on the mountains, Mr. Wilson and party arrived at Lincoln on the 29th. Leaving their horses at Lincoln which is at the head of a slough emptying into Tillamook bay they took a sail boat and in three hours were on the beach twenty-five miles from Lincoln at a place named for the illustrious Italian hero "Garibaldi."

Here they camped in a warehouse owned by Capt. Corino of the Milk Bond and spent the next two days feasting on clams, oysters and enjoying the cool sea breezes. On the 2d they started on their return taking passage to Lincoln, on a tiny little schooner built by Mr. Hoxie father of the Hoxie boys in this city where the party spent a day. Mr. Wilson took a look at the adjacent country and informs us that he found few farms and most of them poorly improved.

At Lincoln they met Mr. Johnson of McMinnville with a party of thirteen bound for the beach at Garibaldi.

Mr. Wilson states that the land in Tillamook owing to its dampness (from mist) is not calculated for a grain country, but for grazing and raising vegetables it is as good as any to be seen in Oregon.

As to the road over the mountains Mr. W. says it is narrow, hardly place for wagons to pass each other, up and down all the way. Those who built it had done all they could to beat the proprietor and had evidently succeeded in their calculations.

Mr. Wilson and wife got home Tuesday evening having enjoyed their short absence from the capital city.

FROM COOS BAY.

An Interesting Letter from our Special Correspondent at Coos Bay.

Coos County, July 27, 1874.

Mr. Editor: As promised on my arrival here, I now give you a few words concerning this Bay. There is no part of Oregon that is more prosperous than this county. There are three coal banks open—two of them extensively—and two more preparing to ship out.

Dr. Henry Goodwin, on the Ishamian Spout, is being opened, the coal being of a superior quality. Peter & Co., at the Ishamus, are hard at work bringing their mine into profitable notice. The Astoria and Newport mines, which have furnished so much coal for years to foreign markets, are already known to your readers.

There are three large steam saw mills running night and day, with the largest capacity. At two of these mills there are ship-yards, and an active business is going on in ship-building. At Simpson's yard there is the largest ship partially built that was ever attempted to be put up on this coast.

The town-site agitation over Marshfield is waxing warm. Mr. Luse has a decision that the site goes into his hands as the purchaser of Warwick, the first settler upon it. As Warwick's claim was not a sincere one, but in the interest of a man by the name of Davis, many wonder how this decision was brought about. Somewhat like the lawyers against Mr. Chase, slept upon their ears, and Luse almost uninterrupted, as by deaf, into this title. Pending this dispute and trouble, other townsites have come into notice much more desirable than Marshfield.

The whole bay is now lined with neat and comfortable houses. The town of North Bend, Empire City, and Coal Banks, present evidences of thrift and wealth. The only objection I find is, all the travelling is done on water, this will get us to however. There are steamboats plying daily all over the bay, which is extensive enough to keep them busy. Two ocean steamers run

between Coos Bay and Astoria weekly for passengers and freight. They are already fitted up and reasonable charges will doubt more in my next.

Aumsville Items.

August 1, 1874.

Day before yesterday a citizen of this place upon hitching up his team, found that his oil horse didn't want to go that way. Another man and team were procured, the team hitched on the lead, the men mounted the wagon and started up, but the balky horse resisted these persuasive efforts to overcome his obstinacy for a quarter of a mile or more, when he began to pull in another tight and pulled about.

During a trip in the Waldo Hills yesterday I noted that harvesting is in full blast. Reapers and headers are running on most of the farms, and fields are thickly studded with stacks of hay and sheaves of grain. Threshing men are on the premises, and operations will commence next week. The yield of grain will be as good as usual.

The Oregon State Temperance Alliance meets in this city Tuesday, September 1st.

How Things Look in the Valley.

Mr. T. B. Wait lately made an excursion into Linn county, and furnishes us with some very acceptable jottings by the way. On his route he visited the farm of G. G. Glenn, this side the Santiam, who has a very fine country residence. Crossing the river into Polk county he visited the pottery at Buena Vista, which is extensively engaged in the manufacture of a constantly increasing variety of articles, and is becoming an annual necessity to Oregon. Here he met Mr. Wells, the most successful hop grower in Oregon, and heard his account of that branch of agriculture with much interest. The hop crop is a prosperous condition and promises well, as the season in Oregon is almost always favorable. The rains that are apt to occur in other States when the hops are forming, destroy or injure the best properties of the hop and depreciate the price, but with us the hop matures perfectly and retains its strength unimpaired. Mr. Wait considers that Wells shows an energy and enterprise in pushing the cultivation of this new product that may greatly benefit our State and deserves the reward of abundant success.

Crossing over into Linn county, our informant reports that Albany appears prosperous and gives token of growth that is very encouraging, as a number of private houses are in course of erection, and besides these the farmers are building a great warehouse on the river, and Newby & Co. are putting up at the railroad depot a truly immense warehouse building, intended to store sacked grain, to be 100x200 in size. On Albany prairie fall wheat looks well; spring wheat has been somewhat hurt, however, by the hot weather that injured its growth when commencing to mature. Lebanon is a nice country village; mechanics there were busy repairing reapers and threshers so as to permit the surrounding farmers to go to work. This is a great place for business, as the rail-road is to be laid to it, interior with its trade, which comes from the rich and populous farming region that lies on the upper waters of the Santiam, above the forks. About the time that Mr. Wait was in that vicinity a five-wheel oil mill, of which he heard the particulars, a beau from Harrisburg and a belie from the Forks of the Santiam, found the course of true love broken by opposition and with the help of the gentle swain who had so far won the heart of the maid, he had the two faithful hearts escaped together and were made one.

Mr. Wait gives, as the result of his observations, that hill banks and bottoms produce better crops this year than are raised on ordinary prairie lands where the clay comes near the surface.

The Penitentiary on Sunday.

A pleasant and delightfully cool chapel, a good secong, an attentive audience, all combined made a visit to the penitentiary yesterday an agreeable one and one long to be remembered. The service commenced at eleven o'clock, at which time the prisoners all came in and took their seats quietly. They were cleanly dressed and smoothly shaved. The sirup room had nothing but a dreary dungeon look about it.

The officers quietly performed their respective duties. One of the prisoners presided at the organ, another led the singing, and nearly all of them joined in the singing, which was in good time and as well given as in any church in the city. The sermon was good and appropriate to the occasion, by Rev. J. Flann.

After the exercises were concluded the visitors present were conducted over the building by Mr. W. H. Watkins, the Superintendent. All were pleased at the neatness, regularity and perfect system that pervades every part of the institution. The hospital is a large airy upper room. The library shows that it is used, and in our rounds we saw many of the prisoners engaged in reading.

We shall have more to say in the future of this institution. In the mean time during this warm weather we would suggest that some of our church-going ladies get together and attend the Sunday services.

Granges Organized.

The following is a list of Granges organized by Frank Shelton, Deputy Master for the Walls Walla District, during May, June and up to July 2d.

Wingville—W. Brown, Master; C. James, Secretary, Baker City, Oregon.

Baker City—B. L. Gardner, Master; C. M. Foster, Secretary, Baker City, Oregon.

Eldorado—James Morfit, Master; C. E. Lucy, Secretary, Eldorado, Oregon.

Bolton—L. E. Cartee, Master; Geo. D. Ellis, Secretary, Bolton City.

Shelton—David Markham, Master; D. Heron, Secretary, Bolton City.

Star—D. W. French, Master; C. J. Simpson, Secretary, Bolton City.

Middleton—J. B. Wright, Master; G. F. Gray, Secretary, Middleton, I. T.

Lower Bolton—F. G. Gilbert, Master; T. J. Foster, Secretary, Middleton, I. T.

Dixie—W. G. Guess, Master; Wm. Kincaid, Secretary, Bolton City.

Curry—A. P. Foster, Master; J. W. Luckey, Secretary, Bolton City.

Horseshoe Bend—R. H. Rohr, Master; F. R. Starr, Secretary, Horseshoe Bend, Benton County, I. T.

Pawnee—John Master; J. B. Touts, Secretary, Pawnee, Master; J. B. Touts.

Walla Walla—T. S. Stone, I. T., Secretary.

Summerville—A. Bennett, Master; W. T. Chapman, Secretary, Summerville, I. T.

Summerville—A. Allison, Master; John G. Curtis, Secretary, Summerville, I. T.

Wesley—Myron Russell, Master; A. F. Hart, Secretary, Wesley, Adams County, I. T.

Powder River—Thos. O'Bryant, Master; H. D. Cassidy, Secretary, Union county.

Men are renouncing this old-time slavery, and out of pure necessity and the inevitable law of nature, the new party is born. It is composed principally of farmers, and the cause of this is obvious. The very life of the farmer will explain it. His is the most independent of all lives. He need cringe to nobody for favors, and as a consequence he will not long endure the encroachments of any species of slavery. He wishes to live, see, think, act and vote according to his own sense of right, and not at the dictation of any man, or body of men. No further explanation is necessary than this.—*Advertiser* (I. T.) News.

THE LANGER BILL.—A bill, even larger than the celebrated bill at Moscow, and therefore the largest in the world has recently been cast at Frankenthal, in Germany, for the Cathedral at Cologne. It is named "Emperor William." Its weight is sixty thousand pounds. The height is eighteen feet, and the width at the base is fourteen feet.

"Jack, your wife is not so pensive as she used to be." "No, she has left that off and turned expensive."

Summary Doings at Wheatland.

A gentleman from Salem made a drive to Wheatland before breakfast last Sunday morning, and as he rode through the Sabbath stillness of that village he was horrified to behold at a sudden turning a human form hanging prone and dead. Our friend read with horror the sequel of some terrible tragedy. On the arm of the defunct hung some pill-bags, so it was a case of true Indian vengeance on a "medicine man." To the back was pinned a document, doubtless the verdict of some midnight jury. All this was done while the calm Saturday night ushered in the Sunday morn—while the sun rose over the sleeping village. The alarm was given and the citizens came around, looking for the corner to hold an inquest for the facts and order the proper burial.

About a week before that a doctor was in Wheatland attending a lady, and the lady's husband was disturbed by the way he managed the case, his observations being made when neither the patient or the doctor knew what he was about. He had the same reason for doubt that Tilton claims to have had about the way Beacher and Mrs. T. looked over those engravings, sitting on the library floor of P. B.'s house. The husband left home for a week, explaining the case of mal-practice, his wife, however, said the neighbors supposed that the town had lost a citizen and the woman a husband. The man seems to have followed Tilton's forgiving example. A week's absence and reflection saw him come back, but the neighbors were determined not to have any say, Beacher-Tilton scandal and let it go unpunished, so they celebrated the good man's return by bringing three poles, staking some old clothes and having a hanging in his front yard. The wind up of course was the husband holding a coronial ceremony with the adjoining villagers standing outside as witnesses of the *auto de fe*. The paper affixed to the hanging body was the full confession of the deceased, which followed the Beacher-Tilton style with great elegance.

As if this were not enough for one neighborhood to be responsible for, we receive information of a man who stood very high in popular estimation, over and valuable property and was also a deacon in the Church, in that vicinity, who recently found convenient to make a sudden departure for parts unknown, having been the ruin of a young girl who had betrayed his villainy, after being betrayed by him. The most terrible story of all is this: that a very respectable young girl, who had been working in a factory near Wheatland, having completed her stay, started home by a path through the woods, one morning, lately, and in the overhanging bushes was found insensible and had evidently been seized, overpowered and outraged, and left unconscious. She only remembered that somebody seized her from behind, and that she was stupidly appearance indicate by use of drugs to enable the swindlers to accomplish his infamous purpose.

VERIFICATION OF A ANCIENT TRADITION.—As far back as the age of Homer the European races had traditions, more or less confirmed in truth, that a race of human beings located somewhere on the Upper Nile, near its source. This German traveler and explorer, Schleiden, has, of late, so far verified these traditions that he has, from actual discovery, been able to give the measurements and other particulars of a large number of the race. They inhabit a country between latitude two degrees north and the equator, on the eastern sources of a great river. These pygmies average about four feet two or three inches in height, are well made for action and strength, quick of motion, and particularly apt in the killing of elephants. He says they average in size about equal with European boys of ten years of age. They have a language which no one but themselves can master. They are of a lighter complexion than the gennality of the African race, and he thinks they had a different origin. He also thinks the South African Bushmen belong to the same race. They cultivate the earth but little, depend on hunting for subsistence, and the only domestic animal they have about them is the common chicken. It is a curious fact in this connection, that some ancient Roman medals now in Florence present a picture of the traditional pygmy race surrounded in the wilderness by packs of lions, and no other animal in view.

SPAIN: MIASURAS.—Imagine a railway from here to the sun. How many hours is the sun from us? Why, if we were to send a baby in an express train, going incessantly at a hundred miles an hour without making any stoppages, the baby would grow to be a boy—the boy would grow to be a man—the man would grow old and die—without seeing the sun, for it is distant more than a hundred years from us. But what is this compared to Neptune's "distance"? Had Adaman and Even started by the creation to go from Neptune to the sun at the rate of fifty miles an hour, they would not have got there yet, for Neptune is more than a thousand years from the center of our system. But we are getting into the large numbers again; we must have going a swine servant than a railway to measure spans for us. Light's Bill answers our purpose, for light travels from the sun to the earth in eight minutes. Eight minutes, then, counting up light, are equivalent to a hundred years of railway express speed. It would take about four hours to go from the sun to Neptune. Among the stars, we shall find that the nearest is three years off counting by light.—*Household Words*.

STRAW BIDS FOR CARRYING MAIL.—The House passed a bill that would have effectively cured the straw bids for carrying the mail, and saved the Postoffice some millions. When the bill went to the Senate, that body dickered all the virtue out of this straw-bid amendment, and the Conference Committee consented to the action of the Senate. When the conference report came up in the House at the last hour for confirmation, honest earnest men drew attention to the sneaking action of the Senate in the interest of the straw-bid plunders of the Government, and for a time it seemed that the House might refuse to adopt the conference report.

At the tick of 12, A.M. on the 1st of August, the session was over, and the straw-bid brigade in the lobby had secured a majority in the thin House, and the report was adopted.</