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LETTER FROM DANIEL CLARK.

ON OVERLAND CAR, January 19th, 1875.

Mr. Editor: On examination I find the Immigrant Department of the State Grange of California very useful for this coast. All immigrants coming from the East or elsewhere, call in San Francisco, for information as to our coast generally. The publisher of the Granger's Guide, Mr. J. Earl, does not seem to be one of those narrow-minded men that is interested only in building up his own State. He has changed the name of his paper to the Granger's Guide of the Pacific Coast. He asks for co-operation from Oregon and thinks that the interest of our State requires that we have a man placed in San Francisco, who is thoroughly acquainted with the various resources of our State and Washington Territory, to give correct and reliable information to any and all persons wishing to find homes on the Pacific slope. This Immigration Bureau should be provided for by the State. But, in the great presence of our Legislature, they save at the "spigot and lose at the bung." It seems hard and unfair to ask the liberal portion of our people to carry such enterprises forward by subscription, when the whole people are equally interested in the result. But some thing should be done in this line if we hope to prosper such as a State.

As I failed to post this as designed, I will say a few words about our trip and the weather. We arrived at Ogden at 9 o'clock this morning, two hours behind time, having been detained by a heavy freight train on the lower end of the Humboldt Plains yesterday morning, in fresh snow, that made the train draw very heavy, the road not being broken. The ruling depth of snow is about one foot and the temperature very mild. At Humboldt yesterday noon the mercury stood at 36° above zero, but it was in doors, and I think hardly a fair test of temperature; but it has been thawing, and is still thawing, and even raining a little as we leave Ogden. I find that travel is light. The road is reported open ahead. Yours truly, in a Pullman Palace car, as she runs,

DANIEL CLARK.

LETTER FROM PHILIP RITZ.

CHICO, Cal., Jan. 30, '75.

Mr. Editor: As the road is washed up and bridges and telegraph down about Carryville. I thought I would stop a day here and visit some old friends and take a look at Gen. Bidwell's magnificent estate of 22,000 acres of as fine land as there is in the State of California, with his immense orchards and vineyards and princely residence and grounds. I found the General at home, in excellent health. He insisted that I should spend the day with him, and soon ordered his carriage, and we drove for miles over his superb farms, after one of the finest teams that I ever saw hitched up.

Last season he planted 110,000 grape vines, mostly of the "White Muscat of Alexandria" the great raisin grape of California. He commenced making raisins of this grape last fall, and those he has on hand now are certainly as fine as any Malaga raisin can be. He is also cultivating the almond largely—Gen. Bidwell settled on this place in 1842, thirty two years ago. He has also a very extensive flouring mill here, and a good portion of this thriving little town of Chico of over 4,000 inhabitants is on his old land claim. His question cost \$100,000, yet after all, notwithstanding the grandeur of these magnificent estates and the hospitality of the great, large hearted owner—it is better for the country to see it settled up more closely with small farmers and more school houses.

Another item, to give your readers some idea of the extent of their farming operations here, I was introduced to a gentleman last night from Colusa county, just west of this across the Sacramento, who is putting in 11,600 acres of wheat. In looking over his bill of expenses, to carry on that farm, with the hardware merchant here, we noticed one item which was a rather new one. It was 250,000 cartridges for Henry rifles—costing \$175. I asked what that could be for, they looked at me with surprise that I should be so queer—and said that was what the ammunition cost to kill wild geese with, that they kept men employed all the time shooting the geese to keep them from eating up the young wheat in the winter, as they come in here in miriads from the frozen countries north and east of the mountains, to winter.

The grain is beautiful and green here now.

some places four inches high, all in great contrast with our country north at this time. After leaving your beautiful and interesting Capital City with the very pleasant associations of friends—a week ago—I came directly to Canyonville and Roseburg, where I took the overland stage in a terrible snow storm and found the snow from fourteen inches at Roseburg to three on Rogue river, and 36 on the Siskiyou mountains and about eight on the head of the Sacramento river. till it run entirely out near Reading, 70 miles north of this.

I find this the first real live good town south of Salem. I found the trip pretty rough and cold at night, but yet after all I don't know that it is any worse than going around by ocean.

Very truly,
PHILIP RITZ.

TUESDAY, Feb. 2.

A BOY SHOT.

Tragedy at South Salem.

About three o'clock this afternoon a little boy, son of Mr. George Rowland and a scholar at South Salem School, was excused to go out, and soon after a pistol report was heard and the lad returned into the house and said he was shot through the breast. Examination showed a wound through the right breast near the nipple and the child soon commenced bleeding also at mouth and nose.

The pistol, it seems, was in the hands of a boy named Scovill, not a member of the school, having been sent off for misconduct a few days ago. What the motive was or the circumstances under which the shot was fired, we have no means of knowing before going to press as the rumor has just reached town in a very crude shape.

Dr. A. N. Kinney, of Portland, who came up this forenoon to attend upon his father, and Dr. E. Y. Chase have gone over to attend the unfortunate boy, and we can only hope that the consequences may not be serious. Of course the sad event has created a great excitement in that vicinity.

ADDITIONAL PARTICULARS.

The latest we can learn is that the Scovill boy, who is known as "Dee" by the boys, had an old Allen pepper-box revolver which wouldn't go, so he was pricking powder into the nipple, holding the pistol against his breast, when it went off and shot little Rowland who was standing by looking on.

PHENOMENON.—We witnessed a beautiful display of the elements as we crossed the foot bridge early this morning. The clouds, which hung high, were pouring down a shower of snow on the distant Polk county hills; the upper current of wind being from the south made the falling fleece incline to the north, but midway to the earth it was caught on the wings of the under current of north wind and carried south, so that the falling shower presented the appearance of a bent knee.

WRITING SCHOOL.—Mr. James Orchard, who is intending to open Writing School here, at the Central School House, next Thursday evening, shows us some very fine specimens of ornamental penmanship and informs us that he has had success in teaching in Albany, Seio and other places. All appearances are in his favor, and we have no doubt he will succeed. His card will be found elsewhere.

PORK AND BEEF.—D. & A. A. McCully informs us that they have purchased 595 pigs in the last two months, weight 89,545 lbs and they have run through their market in that time 31,596 lbs beef for Salem use. The pork has been manufactured into lard and sugar cured hams and shoulders, samples of which are for sale in their markets and will be found too home enough for any of our opinions.

SERIOUSLY WOUNDED.—As the steamer E. N. Cooke was leaving Salem last evening, while cleaning the machinery, one of the hands named Benjamin Perkins was injured by the bursting of the heavy glass that guards the lubricator. He was brought here and taken to the hospital with a wound in the abdomen. We learn to day that little hope is entertained of his recovery.

ENTERPRISE.—The Oregonian has extended its telegraphic contract to include all the matter sent by the Associated Press to the Alta, Bulletin and Union of California, and it publishes to day the full proceedings of the Tilton-Beecher trial, giving Tilton's most important evidence against Beecher in full. We are privately informed that its telegraphic news now costs \$1,000 per month.

SENT TO THE ASYLUM.—Virgil Newsom was brought before the County Judge yesterday afternoon, and upon the proper medical and other evidence was sent to East Portland, in care of his brother and Deputy Sheriff Barker.

POLK COUNTY.

Mr. D. M. Guthrie of Polk county, calls on us to day and reports considerable sickness over there, scarlet fever and some deaths resulting therefrom.

On the 28th ult., John Graves, eldest son of J. K. P. Graves and Abbey Graves, died, aged 7 years 11 months and 18 days. They reside near Mr. Guthrie's place, south of Dallas.

Having resided here for 28 years Mr. Guthrie pronounces it the coldest winter he has ever known, the mercury having been 6° below zero.

David Goff, a very old citizen, who lives near Dixie and is father of Mrs. J. W. Nesmith, lies very ill of paralysis and is not expected to recover; also Mrs. McNary, an old lady whose residence is near Eola, is ill and not expected to live.

Stock, about Dallas, is generally doing well and making a live of it. The first feeding Mr. Guthrie did this winter was on the 9th of January, snow fell on the 13th and lies on yet.

CANDLEMAS.—To-day is Candlemas, a day observed not only as the day of purification of the Virgin Mary by the Catholic Church, but also one of the special days of observance, on that account, of the Episcopal Church. It is known as Candlemas because all the candles burned in religious services, by Catholics, and perhaps also by ritualists of the Episcopal Church, are blessed by a consecrating service, on that day.

STATE PRINTING.—We learn from W. F. Cornell, foreman of the State Printing office, that the bodies of the Senate and House Journals and of the session laws, are now complete and there only remains to set the type for the decisions of the Supreme Court and the indexes of the several volumes. He thinks two weeks more time will suffice to wind up all the work of the late Legislature.

We publish to-day a very interesting letter from Philip Ritz, of Walla Walla, who lately went East and was detained at Chico by the floods which made such devastation at Marysville. His ride over Gen. Bidwell's farm of 22,000 acres give opportunity for a nice description which he has most successfully improved.

OUR FEATHERED FRIENDS.—Second lecture in the course to-morrow evening at the University. The water birds will be the subject of this lecture. Mr. Knight will explain the meanings of such jaw-breaking words as *Limnithorax*, *Longipennis*, *Steganopus*, *Tyrannus*, &c., &c., illustrating with specimens.

NEW BRIDGE WANTED.—William Savage is circulating a petition to both the City Council and the County Court that a new bridge may be constructed at the Commercial St. crossing north Mill Creek, which would prove a convenience to many persons.

The W. R. T. Company has a contract, that commenced with the loading of the Beaver Saturday evening, to carry one thousand tons of flour from the Salem Mills to Astoria. The vessel is probably waiting there to receive cargo.

Our correspondence is very interesting of late, and we hope to elicit a general interest among our readers that shall cause it to become more so, as they shall increase their pleasant contributions.

The illness of our old friend B. C. Kinney is aggravated by the breaking out of erysipelas in the affected limb, but his attendants hope to overcome that difficulty in a few days.

We were mistaken in saying the skating season was over. The boys say that at the head of the slough the ice is better than ever and as good as can be.

Weatherford & Co. are starting into the year 1875 with plenty of goods and a most accommodating spirit. Give them a call.

Broyman Bros. always keep excellent carpets and have a beautiful place to display them and plenty of light to see them by.

John G. Wright has the best assortment of crockery in the city and makes a specialty of keeping good ware and a good assortment.

Herman & Hirsch have excellent clothing and underwear for gentlemen and can suit you to a suit most suitably.

Only seven new subscribers each day for the FARMER last week, and the present week opens well.

Steamers are bringing down lots of wheat and flour from this valley to be shipped at Portland.

SUPREME COURT.

Saml. A. Howe, appellant, vs. Thos. and Francis E. Patterson, respondents; appeal from Columbia county. Decree of the Court below affirmed; opinion by Prim, J.

S. H. Humphreys executor, appellant, vs. L. I. Taylor, respondent; appeal from Washington county. Judgment in the court below affirmed; opinion by Burnett, J.

City of Portland, respondent, vs. Chas. T. Kann, appellant; appeal from Multnomah county. Judgment below reversed and new bill ordered; opinion by Bonham, C. J.

Carolina Huffman, respondent, vs. Saml. Huffman, appellant; appeal from Union county. Argued and submitted.

Newell Russell, respondent, vs. J. M. Swift, appellant; appeal from Baker county. Argued and submitted.

D. A. Richards, respondent, vs. O. O. Fanning; appeal from Union county. Appellant allowed until to-morrow morning to file a motion for diminution of the record.

Caroline Huffman, respondent, vs. Daniel Huffman, appellant; appeal from Union county; decree of the Court below affirmed. Opinion by Prim, J.

James Harst, appellant, vs. Harriet Harst, respondent; judgment in the Court below affirmed. Opinion by Burnett, J.

David R. Lewis, et al., appellants, vs. Della B. Lewis, et al., respondents; motion to remand the cause to the Court below for further proceedings, argued and submitted.

COUNTY COURT.

J. C. Peebles, Judge.

J. Wolford & Co., plaintiffs, vs. Wm. Macgaurie. Judgment rendered for plaintiff by default for the sum of \$239.49, in gold coin interest and cost.

Upon complaint of Harvey M. Newsom, and upon due medical examination, Virgil N. Newsome was adjudged insane, and an order for his commitment to the insane asylum was made by the Judge.

In the matter of the final settlement of the estate of E. E. Wheeler, deceased, final account examined, and compared with the vouchers and found correct; order made for distribution of property among devisees, and a further order for the discharge of the executor.

In the matter of the estate of John D. Wood application to prove the will, proof taken and John M. Harrison appointed executor.

The following jury list was drawn for the February term:

Frank Manning, L. H. Poudjale, Lewis Bergoie, A. Mathot, W. Yergen, Henry Shrum, S. C. Hubbard, J. C. Buchanan, Jno. P. Cole, Davis Shannon, John B. Dimmick, G. W. Shaw, Levi Barnes, Benj. Tucker, P. T. Hicks, Ruben Lewis, John P. Anderson, T. J. Edmundson, N. O. Parker, James, Francis, A. L. Simson, Ralph Walters, W. C. Morris, G. M. Tingle, John F. Miller, D. C. Howard, John Bash, Ed. Hirsch, J. P. Vesch, C. B. Roland, A. B. Cosper.

TREASURY RECEIPTS.—During the week the State Treasury has been replenished from the funds of Clackamas county to the extent of \$10,619, brought hither by Mr. J. E. Ward. One thousand of this sum belonged to the irreducible school fund.

Al. Edgar has arrived with the Dalles mail and reports tea on the Columbia thick and strong.

The ice has almost disappeared from the vicinity of Portland. The mass began to move yesterday morning, early, and before noon little was seen.

The ice in the Lower Columbia, at Kalama, is growing thin and rotten and full of air holes.

Large quantities of baled hay are coming into town where it finds a ready sale.

FINE JOB PRINTING.—E. D. Williams, Job printer, in Durbin's block, shows us specimen of his printing of five colors at one time and informs us that he is prepared and ready to do such work at any time on short notice. This work is done by a Globe press, the latest improvement in the art, that being the kind he uses.

SALEM WOOLEN MILLS.—Superintendent Joseph Hoyt informs us that work is going on to repair frozen pipes and prepare for active operations and the mill will probably be under full head way next week, making the usual flow of goods it turns out.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 3.

PROPOSE TO DISBAND.—At a meeting of directors of Home Manufacturing Company, this morning, an understanding was arrived at that on the deposit of money, at next meeting of stockholders, to defray expenses incurred up to this time, the company should then be disbanded. Any money paid in on stock, more than the proportion due from the individual making it towards paying the expenses, will be refunded. To make action legal, stockholders will have to pay the first assessment to entitle them to vote, but the Linn county men express a determination to give the rest ample security that the fair thing shall be done to all concerned and no advantage taken.

STEAMER ALICE SUNK.—Yesterday the Alice, Captain Bell, was on her way down with 150 tons of freight taken on at Corvallis and Albany, and when about one mile above Buena Vista she struck a snag which had newly lodged in the current and it tore a hole immediately under the boiler. Seeing the water coming in last the captain had her beached about two hundred yards from where she struck, on a level bar, where she lies comfortably with no danger of injury to the freight. The purser, Mr. J. W. McCully, came down to town yesterday afternoon and telegraphed down to the company to send up nails, lumber and carpenters to repair her and a boat to take off her cargo. The Fannie or Cooke will come up this evening for that purpose.

LECTURE TO-NIGHT.—Rev. P. S. Knight's lecture at the University Chapel this evening will be worth attending. Outside of the natural interest in the lecture itself, fine specimens of taxidermy (prepared by Mr. Allen Rhodes) will materially assist the lecturer in illustrating his discourse besides attracting considerable attention from the audience. Among the specimens to be shortly used is a fine pair of shell-drake ducks (*Merganser Americanus*), which are somewhat of a rarity although not entirely unknown in Oregon. This course of lectures will repay the time taken in listening to them.

HERSPERIAN AND CONCORDIA.—These societies have an excellent programme for their exhibition to take place Friday evening the 14th inst. An admittance fee of 50 cents will be charged at the door, the proceeds of which go toward repairing their hall. The programme consists of dialogues, charades, recitations in character, etc., interspersed with music, and the whole programme taken together is undoubtedly a good one—intended to please—and as they have heretofore been giving free exhibitions, the citizens of Salem should turn out and give them a full house.

THE COUNTY POOR.—There are now, in all, 13 paupers in Marion county. There were sent to the East, last fall, to friends there, two of them being old men, respectively 60 and 64 years of age, the third was an old lady of 70. The county poor farm was sold for \$2,000 last fall, to our townsman, N. Haas; and at the present time the county poor are boarded around among the farmers, as the most convenient and economical way for providing for them.

HOSE FOR FIRE.—We learn from Dr. Carpenter that the young man Cook, who had his foot cut so badly a few days ago, is doing well, but he cannot expect to use that limb soon. The case of Benj. Perkins, who was injured by the explosion on board of the Alice on her passage up the other day, is a dangerous one, the wound being in the abdomen and of a character that often proves fatal. A few days more will decide his fate.

HOME MANUFACTURING COMPANY.—The meeting of stockholders of this company was called for yesterday afternoon, but no sufficient amount of paid up stock was present to make a quorum and the meeting adjourned without accomplishing anything. The directors have issued another call for the stockholders to meet on the 23d inst.

MARRIED.—Two wedded couples were on a bridal trip, visiting Salem at this time and stopping at the Commercial. Munroe Barford and Nellie Grant; also George W. Sloper of Salem and Martha E. Barford were married at the residence of David Grant, E. q., near Dallas, and are the happy parties we refer to. The ceremony was by Judge W. Truitt of Polk county.

NOT SO BAD.—The Rowland boy who was accidentally shot yesterday escaped without any serious hurt. The wound cannot be probed over an inch deep, the ball cannot be found and the boy is about as usual, only a little sore.