

WILLAMETTE FARMER.

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LATE DISPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—The House committee on military affairs to-day considered the President's message relating to increase of the army during pending Indian war, and agreed to a bill which passed the Senate July 31st, providing that the President shall have power to increase the number of enlisted men in each company of cavalry to 100 in such regiments as may in his opinion require such increase, provided not more than 2,000 enlisted men shall be added at any one time to the 25,000 authorized by the act of July 14, 1875; adopted, with an amendment that so soon as hostilities cease the recruits shall be reduced again and original men mustered out.

Speaker Kerr's condition is such as to alarm his friends, and it is now believed he will not long survive. A dispatch received from him, dated yesterday, from Rock Bridge Alum Springs, says: "I am much worse and hope is growing weaker."

The consular and diplomatic appropriation bill, as passed by both houses to-day, makes provision for a United States minister at the Sandwich Islands—the House recording from its proposition to degrade the mission to consulate.

The Hawaiian treaty bill, judging by present indications, will pass the Senate by a handsome majority.

The Indian appropriation bill was finally reported from the conference committee as it will become a law. It provides the usual amount for salaries and payments required by law and treaty stipulations, but appropriates only the following reduced amounts for incidental expenses and all general purposes on the Pacific coast, namely: For California, \$30,000; Oregon, and Utah, \$10,000 each; Nevada, Montana and Washington, \$5,000 each; Idaho, \$3,000; New Mexico, \$1,500; Arizona, \$2,000. The amount appropriated for care and subsistence of Apaches who have been or may be collected on reservations in Arizona or New Mexico, is compromised at \$42,500.

The legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, as passed by both Houses to-day, contains the following Pacific Coast items:

The salaries of governors, chief justices and assistant judges of Washington, Montana, Idaho, Utah, New Mexico and Arizona Territories are fixed at \$5,000 each. All other Territories are given \$2,000.

New York, Aug. 13.—A Times Washington special says the appropriation bills as finally passed made a gross reduction of about twenty-nine and a half millions below last year.

The total sum appropriated by the river and harbor bill is distributed as follows: New York, \$548,000, of which \$250,000 is for the Hell Gate improvement; Wisconsin, \$444,000; Michigan, \$387,000; West Virginia, \$277,000; Texas, \$247,000; North Carolina, \$100,000; Ohio, \$169,000; Virginia, \$100,000; Oregon, \$144,000; Georgia, \$137,000; Indiana, \$107,000; Minnesota, \$100,000; Missouri, \$99,000; California, \$85,000; Maryland, \$25,000; Massachusetts, \$75,000; Arkansas, \$25,000; Iowa and Illinois, \$65,000 each; Pennsylvania, \$60,000; Tennessee, \$32,000; Delaware, \$32,000; Rhode Island, \$45,000; Louisiana and Connecticut, \$35,000 each; Vermont, \$25,000; Maine and New Jersey, \$20,000 each, and balance of the five millions distributed among other States in smaller amounts.

CHICAGO, Aug. 13.—The striking brakemen on the Ohio and Mississippi railroad at Vincennes to-day ran two coaches containing the officers of the road and a detachment of police on the side track, spiked the switch and drove the police across the Washburn river into Illinois. The strikers appear to have possession of the road. The Governor has been strongly appealed to for aid.

LYNCHBURG, Va., Aug. 13.—This morning a water-pipe struck the line of the Virginia Midland Railroad, six miles north of this place. The flood extended over five miles. A culvert was carried away, leaving a gap ninety feet broad and fifty feet deep into which the freight train was plunged, killing Keyes, the engineer, and Anderson, a brakeman. The train lived only a few minutes.

CHICAGO, Aug. 13.—The *Inter-Ocean's* six-city special says: An Indian brought news into Fort Totten this afternoon of a great battle recently fought by Gen. Crook's command and Sitting Bull's force. The Indians were nearly all killed. Those who escaped scattered in all directions; there not being enough left to resist the soldiers.

OMAHA, Aug. 13.—A telegram from Fort Laramie to-day says the report of Gen. Terry's fight with Sitting Bull is confirmed through Indians coming to Spotted Tail agency. They report a heavy engagement; the defeat of the Indians with great loss and Sitting Bull wounded. Heavy fires have been seen from Fort Laramie to the east. It is feared the Indians have attacked ranches on the hills bottoms and burnt their supply of hay.

CHICAGO, Aug. 13.—The *Tribune's* Omaha special says: The dispatch received from Heber about Terry's fight was first considered improbable, but it since has had some apparent confirmation at military headquarters here. There is no news of the junction of Crook and Terry. Crook left camp on the 6th. Terry was to march on the 7th. Gen. Williams thinks from the depression in which the Indians are marching that it must have been Crook that met and whipped them. Private dispatches from J. W. Dean, agency postmaster, states that he got from Indian sources the news that Crook had met and defeated the Sioux. Dispatches from E. D. Townsend state he had no news from Spotted Tail agency that Terry's troops met and whipped the Indians.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—Gen. Sherman states he has received a similar report from another direction, to that published yesterday, stating that a terrible battle had taken place between Crook and the Sioux, and that the latter had been almost annihilated. It was brought to Red Cloud agency and sent

to him from Laramie, therefore, he says there seems to be more substance in the squaw's story than was at first considered probable.

OREGON FRUITS.

MILWAUKEE, August 14, 1876.

EDITOR OF THE OREGONIAN: Having read a letter in the WILLAMETTE FARMER concerning the Centennial Exposition. My mind was forcibly called to a certain portion wherein was stated that Iowa had far the best exhibit of fruits, that is, better than any other State in the Union.

If you have the space, please let me say a few words through your valuable paper. We know that the amount of green fruits from our young State is deficient at our great National Exhibition. We know that Oregon is thousands of miles from this grand affair but should this discourage us? No, never; for our best varieties of fruits can be sent thus far with but slight damage. The cost for sending fruit by express is enormous. Cherries sent by us and weighing but 16 pounds, cost \$6 30. Why will our State not assume the expense and see that our fruits be properly represented? The Centennial only comes once in a hundred years, and we will never behold the like of this again. Why not avail ourselves of these splendid opportunities? Now is the time for Oregon to compete with the world in fruits, and her chances are fair to carry off the palm. So far, Iowa is ahead.

Is it not worthy the notice of nations, or are you not properly stimulated? In October the exhibition will be at its highest; then is the time for you to open your fruit exhibit to the world, and it, we venture to say, will gladly contribute to the fruit exhibit provided the State will bear the expense. This is proper, and should be attended to as soon as possible. Some arrangements should be made immediately, so as to give fruit-growers a chance to prepare their fruits.

Oregon fruit-growers, let us do all in our power to urge the State forward to its duty! We know that our fruit is too fine to forever rot on Oregon soil. Let us strive to have a thorough exhibit of fruits open to the world in October. Our grains beat the world, why not our fruits? Hoping to hear from some of our most noted fruit-growers upon this all-important subject. I am, sir, yours,

WM. A. LUELLING.

The contract entered into by those who bind themselves to ship wheat from Albany to Portland by Capt. Cochran's proposed line of boats, is substantially as follows: "We hereby agree to obligate ourselves severally and separately in bonds to Captain J. W. Cochran & Co. to furnish them the amount of freight set opposite our respective names, for transportation from Albany to Portland, Oregon, (to be landed on any wharf the shippers may designate) between the dates of November 15, 1876, and June 1, 1877, for which service we separately and severally contract and agree to pay ten cents per bushel for grain, or three dollars, thirty-three and one-third cents per ton, upon the said J. W. Cochran & Co., and we separately obligate ourselves to furnish the amount of grain for shipment, and in the manner indicated, and failing to do so within those dates, become liable for the amount of freight money as hereinafter indicated at rates as above."

THE VALUES OF OUR ORCHARDS.

Large and Small Dryers.

Those who are interested in having the Alden factories established in every county of Oregon, and anxious to sell county rights for that purpose, are constantly making the assertion that fruit-drying, like other manufacturing interests, must be carried on largely by success. They say—and it is a favorite comparison—that the farmer may as well work up the fleeces from his own sheep with the old-fashioned loom, as to try to manufacture the apples of his orchard into dried fruit. This comparison is unfortunate, as can readily be shown. Wool is a product that is not perishable, but can be stored and marketed when the producer is satisfied with the offer of purchase. Green fruit, on the contrary, is very perishable and must be saved when ripe or prove a total loss. The farmer who depends on selling his apples to a dryer ten miles off, is at the mercy of his customer, who can control the market in his own way, be the crop full or small. The Alden county right carries with it a monopoly and the farmer cannot depend on any monopoly, but must in preference take measures to be independent of it.

The Alden men say that they make the only fruit that has a fair reputation. The Alden fruit certainly has a good reputation and is good, no man can dispute that, and it may be possible that if fruit can be manufactured into a dried product on a large scale, that the Alden factories can be made profitable, but all that we can learn of the experience of these factories since they were established in Oregon does not prove it, and we shall like to have any of the owners of such factories publish in the FARMER a statement of business done to show the contrary, for we should be glad to know, beyond question,

that the Alden factories can be made to pay well.

We do know that good fruit can be manufactured in cheaper dryers, and will command a price almost, if not quite, up to the best Alden product. We can show letters from Church & Co., of San Francisco, giving a critical account of their estimate of fruit manufactured by Mrs. E. A. Walling, of Spring Valley, six miles from Salem, which was sold by that house early in April last at 14 cents per pound, according to their account of sales rendered and money paid therefor, and we invite comparison of Alden fruit sales, made in San Francisco at same time, in jobbing lots.

We believe we have here established the fact that an orchardist can manufacture good dried fruit in his own Oregon orchard, which is an answer to the Alden sophistry. Making cloth from wool is a complicated process that requires skilled labor and great nicety of machinery, but the drying of fruit is a business that any family exercising common care and industry can carry on successfully with a good family dryer. Now the question is: can a manufactory that buys its fruit and hires all its labor, compete successfully with family labor? Twenty-five cents is all a drying company can afford to pay for average apples, delivered in good order.

This requires that fruit shall be carefully gathered and hauled to the factory, requiring the use of a team, and involving almost if not quite as much expense of labor, including team work, as the orchardist would incur if he dried the fruit at home, for the expense is not great. The farmer has cheaper fuel also, and that is no small object. Almost without a dollar of cash outlay, running the dryer when convenient only, and perhaps making only evening work of it, he converts his apples into a product, not perishable, and worth double, or more, what he could have sold the green fruit for, after hauling it a distance. Also he can have a cider press to work up his cores, parings, and inferior apples, if he does not choose to feed them to stock.

The time has come when the Oregon farmer should have a greater variety of products to depend upon. As it is, the great majority say they won't haul apples and sell them at twenty-five cents—we hear that said often. And it seems to us that the alternative is, either that apples shall go to waste, be fed to stock at great disadvantage, or that they must be worked up at home.

In case the farmer cannot use a dryer himself, it is still true that machines could be run in each neighborhood by persons who could buy the orchards around and gather the fruit themselves. Certainly, in these hard times, the orchards of Oregon should not go to waste.

Letter from Yquima.

SOUTH BEACH, Aug. 8, 1876.

ED. FARMER:—The splashing of the incoming tide greeted us at Newport, Yquima Bay, one afternoon three days' easy drive from Salem. Finding that "time and tide wait for no man," we took our time, and waited for the turn of the tide till the next morning, so that we could be ferried across to the South Beach, where Salemites generally go. Finding it necessary to stay at Newport one night, we camped in an empty house, with reckless extravagance paying rent at the rate of fifty cents a day. To-day finds us with camp fire, tent stretched, table made, and all comfortably fixed. The road over the mountains is, for a mountain road, exceedingly good. An immense amount of labor has been expended upon it. There are some long pulls, but the grades are smooth and easy. The most of the way, after leaving the valley, the road winds and twists about the foot of the hills, following the course of the Yequima river, and is quite level. The last fifteen miles is more hilly. Two long new bridges span the tide land before getting to Newport. The roughest road we found, was from Independence to Monmouth,—full of chuck holes.

One noticeable fact in passing along the old toll road, is the frequent appearance of deserted houses and homes. Small farms, with nice little orchards and meadows, redeemed from the dense underbrush, again growing up with the wilderness. We surmised all sorts of reasons for this: poverty, unhealthiness, non-appearance of the long-looked-for railroad, &c. Upon inquiry, we found that these places had been taken up as homesteads, and the grant of land to the toll road corporation falling upon these sections, the settlers lost them. Miles and miles of rail fences falling, and the young apple trees, torn and bruised by the cattle, gave a sad, haunted look to the landscape.

Many farms had escaped the plague of land corporation and showed nice fields of wheat, oats, flax and buckwheat. Buckwheat suggestive of pancakes, and the many beehives suggestive of honey to put on them.

The toll road has been thrown open for non-fulfillment of contract, so there is a question whether the corporation can hold the land—a question that is now before the courts. At present the road is a county road and kept in good repair.

TUESDAY.

This morning the camps divided up into foraging parties in search of the various good things to be had for the getting, on the beach and water. I should first say that Mr. Davis, who owns this place where we are camped, among the pine-covered sand hills, is very kind and obliging, piloting us about, and giving us the use of his boats and in every way making us comfortable. Our camp went out, led by Mr. Davis and Mr. Breyman, to dig for razor clams; and came back loaded with them, besides two snipes and two sea gulls. Mr. E. N. Cooke and his nephew, Mr. Stuart, came in with any amount of rock oysters. Meanwhile the Gray brothers had got bait and all went out in a boat and came back soon with rock cod. To-morrow we go to get oysters, and next day to get mountain trout. Our horses are doing well here in Mr. Davis' pasture, and we are soon to take a drive on the beach to visit Alsea reservation. There seems to be no such good bathing here as on Clatsop or Tillamook as the breakers are too far out. There may be good bathing, however, farther up. H.

Bridging the Little North Fork of the Santiam.

At the August term of the County Court of Marion County, the following order was made:

"Now, at this day came S. A. Clarke, and presents a petition and subscription list, numerously signed, praying an appropriation from the treasury of the County, to assist in building a bridge across the Little North Fork of the Santiam river, on the Minto Pass road; and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that a sum equal to the cost of construction of one half of said bridge had been guaranteed by the citizens of this County, and that said bridge, if constructed, would be of great public utility, it is considered by the Court that the prayer of the petition should be granted. It is therefore ordered that a sum not exceeding (\$500.) five hundred and fifty dollars, be and the same is hereby appropriated out of the County Treasury, for the purpose of assisting in the construction of said bridge, and that S. A. Clarke, in conjunction with the County Judge of this County, be appointed as Superintendent, to advertise, let the contract, Superintendent the construction, and when completed, receive said bridge and make report of his proceedings to this Court. And it is further ordered that the contract be let at public outcry, on the premises where said bridge is to be built, to the lowest responsible bidder, and said contract to expressly state that in no event will the County be responsible for more than one half the cost of construction of said bridge, and that said bridge must be built according to plans and specifications on file in the Clerk's office of Marion County, and be completed on or before the first day of November, 1876.

Sheep Culture.

EDITOR FARMER: Last fall we burned off a piece of wheat stubble, and as it looked clean and nice we concluded to try an experiment in wheat culture, so we sowed or rather drilled five and a half acres of the piece with a bushel and one half of clean wheat to the acre. It came up well, and we pastured it all winter and spring until about the 10th of April with sheep and calves. We cut and threshed 163 bushels, machine measure, of good wheat as grows from that five and one half acres, yesterday, which is pretty good for this season.

I am satisfied that sheep culture is what caused that land to produce 78½ bushels of good clean wheat per acre with but one plowing. The land was well plowed in March, 1874, ran over once with the fern-killer in August, sown in wheat with the drill in September, 1874, and 47½ bushels of wheat per acre harvested from it in August 1875, and at least 30 bushels this year by weight, which makes 78½ bushels with but one plowing and one cultivating. R. C. GREER, Silverton, Aug. 16, 1876.

SMALL-POX.—The man Nichols who had the small-pox at East Portland, died a day or two since.

A man who came upon the last steamer, and stopped at Gervais, was taken down with small-pox a few days after his arrival there. He was placed in an old building, and, as he says, left for three days and nights without any attendance, when he concluded to abandon such an inhospitable community and make his way to Salem where he would be taken care of. The City Marshall met him at the outskirts of town, and provided him with quarters and attendance, on Chilwood Island. The patient said there was no danger of the disease spreading from him, as he avoided everyone on his way up to town.

Hon. H. W. Scott and wife arrived at Portland on last steamer.

ABOUT A. J. DUFUR.

A friend thinks that we give the entire credit of the Oregon exhibit at Philadelphia to Mr. A. J. Dufur, in last week's FARMER. We have merely, however, given that gentleman credit for serving the State and working for our interests for several years, without receiving payment for his time. His travelling expenses have been paid to and fro, but he has devoted, in all over two years time to this work, for which time he has not had a dollar of remuneration, and we believe he is now paying his own personal expenses at Philadelphia, as all the money liberally contributed by the O. & C. R. R. Co., and private individuals, was expended in freights and preparations, and we learn that Dufur and Burkhart borrowed \$500 besides that has not been paid. These things being so, and the Oregon exhibit proving a great success, as the accounts of Hon. Geo. P. Holman and H. W. Scott, just returned, fully sustain, we cannot any of us very well afford to criticize Mr. Dufur unkindly, for no one among us would—or perhaps could—have undertaken and carried through the work he has done as he has done it. If Dufur had not done this work Oregon would have had no exhibit, which we consider the long and short of the matter, but at same time, those who have assisted him should not fail to receive all credit due them.

While entertaining the very highest respect for the service being rendered, and that have been rendered in the past in this connection, by Mr. Dufur, we regret that Eastern correspondents have seen fit to reflect that no State appropriation has been made, and have given Mr. Dufur all the credit, whereas three thousand dollars by the State and two thirds as much more by private individuals have been expended to advance this cause and pay traveling expenses of the commissioner. Mr. Dufur could never have desired that these facts should be suppressed.

Lecture on Oregon.

We find in the Philadelphia *Evening Telegraph* of Aug. 14 an interesting and lengthy sketch of a lecture on Oregon, delivered at Pacific Coast Hall, Centennial Grounds, the day before, by Hon. H. H. Gilfry, our townsman, being the fourth of a series of lectures delivered at the Centennial, on the Resources of the States. In this lecture Mr. Gilfry gave a very complete description of Oregon and account of our social condition as well as our resources. The lecturer seems to have most admirably covered the whole ground, and showed a desire to make our advantages thoroughly known.

THE LITTLE PLUM PITTER.—In our columns this week will be found the advertisement of the new invention of Mr. B. A. Little of Portland, of which we made reference last week. After examination of this machine, and knowledge of its performance, we are disposed to believe that it will perform the work of pitting all varieties of stone fruits with rapidity as well as success in other respects. The invention of these machines and of fruit-dryers that can be made available in private orchards, brings fruit culture, for drying purposes, more prominently forward as a general pursuit that can be made profitable beyond a question.

AT VANCOUVER.—During a day's stay at Vancouver last week we visited the large orchard and extensive nurseries of Hon. S. W. Brown, who is preparing to supply a large demand for fruit trees another season, and whose orchard shows a good yield of apples, pears, plums, and peaches, rather a better yield, in fact, than we have seen in any other orchard we have visited. Mr. Brown has given scientific attention to his business, has a favorable location for its pursuit, and, furthermore, is fortunately situated with regard to markets, as he can take advantage of the Portland demand, or easily ship to California, if rates will justify.

PERSONAL.—Hon. J. R. McBride, formerly Representative in Congress from Oregon, and now a resident of Salt Lake City, was in Salem this week, on a visit. He returned to his home on Wednesday.

Bright Eyes, Regular Features and a graceful figure fail to produce their due effect if the complexion is defaced with pimples or blotches, or the skin is rough or harsh. To remedy these defects use Glenn's Sulphur Soap.