

He Has an Ax to Grind.

Franklin says: When I was a little boy, I remember, one cold, winter's morning, I was accosted by a smiling man with an ax on his shoulder.

"My pretty boy," said he, "has your father a grindstone?"

"Yes, sir," said I.

"You are a fine fellow," said he. "Will you let me grind an ax on it?"

"Pleased with the compliment of 'a fine little fellow,' 'Oh, yes, sir,' I answered; 'it is down in the shop.'"

"And will you, my man," said he, patting me on my head, "get me a little hot water?"

"How could I refuse? I ran and soon brought a kettle full.

"How old are you, and what's your name?" continued he, without waiting for a reply. "I am sure you're one of the finest lads that ever I have seen. Will you just turn a few minutes for me?"

Ticked with the flattery, like a fool I went to work, and bitterly did I rue the day.

It was a new ax, and I toiled and tugged till I was almost tired to death. The school-bell rang and I could not get away. My hands were blistered, and it was not half ground. At length, however, the ax was sharpened, and the man turned to me with—

"Now, you little rascal, you've played the truant; send to school, or you'll catch it!"

Alas! thought I, it was hard enough to turn a grindstone this cold day, but now to be called a little rascal, was too much. I sunk deep in my mind, and often have I thought of it since. When I see a merchant over polite to his customers, begging them to take a little brandy, and throwing his goods on the counter, thinks I, that man has an ax to grind.

When I see a man flattering the people, making great professions of attachment to liberty, who in private life a tyrant, methinks, look out, good people, that fellow would set you to turning grindstones.

When I see a man hoisted into office by party spirit, without a single qualification to render him either respectable or useful, alas! methinks, deluded people, you are doomed for a season to turn the grindstone for a booby.

A New Style of Victimizing.

Several strange men drive through an agricultural district, stop at all the farm houses, and make a contract to take all the butter the farmer can furnish at fifty cents per pound. Further it will be gathered by fast special teams, and the cash paid for it at the door. The pretence is that during the fall and winter the large cities will be overcrowded, and that butter will be scarce. In this way all the farmers in a district are contracted with, and arrangements are made to come for the butter on certain days and at certain points, the contract to go into effect in two weeks. A few days after the departure of the man, a drove of cows comes along. They are fine milk cows. The farmers having a good thing in view, think they might use a few more cows. They try to buy them, and the drover doesn't seem anxious to sell. Finally, however, he is induced to sell two or three to each farmer, at prices considerably higher than the real market value. He then departs, meets his partner who puts up the butter job, and they divide their profits. That is the last the farmers hear of it.—New Lisbon, (O.) Journal.

A relic of the Great Fire of London has been found (the "Graphic" tells us) at Eastcheap. The fire of 1666 is said to have begun in Pudding-lane and ended at Pie Corner, and the identical spot where the conflagration originated is pointed out by an inscription on an old stone recently unearthed in the cellars of a warehouse in Pudding-lane. The inscription runs as follows:—"Here by ye Permission of Heaven Hell broke loose upon this Protestant City from the malicious hearts of baronous papists by ye hand of their agent Hubert, who confessed and on ye Ruines of this place declared ye Fact for which he was hanged (VIZT), 'That here began that Dreadful Fire which is described and perpetuated on and by ye neighbouring Pillar.' Erected Anno 1681 in the Mayoralty of Sir Patience Ward, Kt." The stone was face downwards—a proof that it had remained undisturbed for two centuries. Some coins were near the stone, and probably Hubert's skeleton is not far off. The pillar referred to is, of course, the Monument on Fishstreet-hill, on which the inscription accusing the Roman Catholics, after being erased and restored, was finally effaced in 1831. This stone, although now broken in half, is of considerable historic interest, and is certainly worthy of preservation.

At the reception given by President White, of Ithica, N. Y., to President Grant, as Professor Potter was being introduced to Grant, the person presenting him remarked: "Mr. President, here is a man in whom you will probably be somewhat interested."

"How so?"

"His father, leaving a leg behind him, went to the war as a surgeon. Then this gentleman, his only son, likewise enlisted as a surgeon as soon as he was graduated. Next his two sisters, whose husbands were already in the war, one as a captain of engineers and the other as a surgeon, also went as nurses. And finally, the mother shut up house and went to nurse wounded soldiers."

The Professor in question, who was fidgeting and blushing with embarrassment, quickly remarked: "Yes, we were all there, the whole family."

HOLPOWAY'S PILLS—Are a sure remedy for all sexual complaints, and may be taken by females, who are suffering from a disorganized system or those distressing diseases, in particular which frequently occur from inattention at the turn of life. They are so mild that the most delicate female may take them with perfect safety. 25 cents per box or pot.

CHOICE RECIPES.

ED. FARMER: In the FARMER of the 15th of Dec., I read an article from Mrs. Ella A. Hibbs, wishing that some one of your readers would give a recipe for making yeast bread. As I think that good yeast is the first thing essential in making good bread I will give a recipe for yeast, first:

YEAST.—Pare six large potatoes; put them in a porcelain or bright tin vessel, with a small handful of hops (Oregon or California hops are the best) in a thin muslin bag; pour on them two quarts of boiling water, boil one half hour; then mash the potatoes and pour on them the hop-water they were boiled in; add one teacupful of sugar, one teacupful of ginger; when milk-warm, add one teacupful fresh yeast, and set away to raise; when light, add one teacupful salt. This yeast is not good until it is two days old. Bottle and keep in a cool place.

BREAD.—To make bread from this yeast: Take one teacupful of yeast to one quart of warm water; thicken with flour for a sponge the night before you want to bake. Set where it will keep warm; in the morning, when light, add two teacupfuls salt; make into bread, (not too stiff but so that it will work well) mold well and set where it will keep warm till it is perfectly light; then mold again and make into loaves; raise again, and when it is puffing under the fingers it is light enough to bake. Bake at least one hour, in a moderately hot oven. This will make at least three large loaves. Never use soda in yeast bread.

DRIED YEAST.—Take one large handful of good hops, pour on them two qts. boiling water; boil them till the strength is all out of the hops; then take one pint of sifted flour; place in an earthen or bright tin vessel, and pour the boiling hop-water on the flour and set away to cool; add one good coffee cupful of fresh yeast and set away to raise; when perfectly light stir in two-thirds corn meal and the remainder flour, till stiff enough to make into cakes with the hand; lay the cakes on a cloth where the wind will blow on them; turn them every day till dry. This yeast will keep good one year if care is taken in making it, when the weather is dry and warm in the Spring, and it is always handy for farmers' wives to start what is termed "wet yeast" with.

Mrs. M. A. C. McMinnville, Dec. 25, 1876.

Joe Rogers of Walla Walla, got his leg broken by a wagon loaded with rails turning over on him, while going down hill.

The Markets.

The Wheat Market.

The latest private advices we have show that Wheat was \$2 25 per cental, at San Francisco; that tonnage was very abundant, so much so that vessels were unable to get an offer at \$2 per ton to Liverpool. We give dispatches of recent date quoting the Mark Lane Express, showing a decided advance in Wheat at Liverpool, which is independent of war rumors, as the aspect of European affairs has, of late, been rather pacific, than otherwise. It is evident that there is an honest demand for breadstuffs that causes this advance.

Tonnage is also abundant at Portland, vessels having been chartered at low figures, so low as \$2 3s to \$2 5s, and it is even thought some vessels would accept \$2 in preference to leaving the Columbia river in ballast, which is probable to happen.

Wheat quotations at Portland are nominally \$2 to \$2.10 per cental, but really more would be given for round lots, as we know that \$1.62 1/2 per bushel was offered here in Salem two days ago, and we have reason to think that \$1.65 would have been paid, if it could have been accepted. We also know that for a round lot of 15,000 bushels in store at Independence a price was offered that was considered above the market.

Wheat has mostly passed out of first hands, which may be inferred from the fact that the highest wheat receipt at Salem Mills is 250 bushels, and the total unsold wheat in store is not over 3,000 bushels, while at the Farmers' Warehouse the total unsold stored wheat is 400 bushels, in lots of 200 bushels each.

Drouth in California.

The want of rain is severely felt in California and the farmers are suffering greatly from the long continued dry weather. The young grass that sprang up with the early rains of October is dead again; summer-fallowed wheat is apparently in the same condition, and the prospect is that unless they can have rains soon the harvest of the coming year will be deficient. Much early sowed grain will have to be replanted.

European Grain Market.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—Mark Lane Express says: Rain has been the prevailing characteristic of the weather the past week. Wheat looks thriving. Although imports continue light, Granary stock is fair with a light tendency toward lower prices with limited arrivals. At Liverpool and London there is a decided demand. Millers were more active buyers at prices indicating complete recovery of the depression noticeable early in the week, but with the political question still in suspense, confident of further improvement.

San Francisco Market. [BY TELEGRAPH.] San Francisco, Dec. 26.

Flour—Extra jobbing, \$7 25.

Wheat—Quite firm at \$2 10 1/2 3/4; no round lot of choice could possibly be obtained under \$2 20.

Oats—For choice feed \$1 90, part good.

Barley—Brewing, \$1 17 1/2 1/4; feed, \$1 20 1/2 1/4.

Legal Tenders, 93 1/2 buying; 91 selling.

Liverpool wheat market to-day—11s 1/4 1/2 1/4 for average California; 11s 4 1/2 1/4 for Club.

SALEM MARKET.

Table with columns for MONETARY, FLOUR, GRAIN &c., GROCERIES, and FRUITS, VEGETABLES, &c. listing various goods and their prices.

Table with columns for BUTTER, EGGS, &c., OILS, &c., and LEATHER, &c. listing various goods and their prices.

Chinese Laborers CAN BE FURNISHED, CAPABLE OF GRINDING, WOOD-CUTTING, &c., upon application to J. McCAKEN & CO., 50, 52, 54, 56 N. Front Street, PORTLAND.

Trees, Plants, Bulbs, Fall Price List and Bulb Catalogue GRATIS. Address F. K. PHOENIX, Bloomington Nursery, Ill. SW

Protect Your Buildings, Which may be done with one-fourth the usual expense, by using our PATENT SLATE PAINT (Fifteen Years Established) MIXED READY FOR USE.

Fire-proof, Water-proof, Durable, economical and ornamental.

Improved Home Shuttle. FIRST MACHINES SOLD IN THIS CITY eight years since. LATEST STYLE. Cloth Plate Even with Table. JUST RECEIVED. NEW DRAW FEED. DEALING DIRECT WITH MANUFACTURERS, can sell these favorite Machines 25% LESS THAN OTHER MACHINES. SEND FOR NEW PRICE LIST, and SAVE YOUR MONEY. Oil Attachments and Needles for all Machines.

GEO. W. TRAVER, Manufacturers' Agent, 8 W. COR. MORRISON AND THIRD STS., PORTLAND, OREGON.

REAL ESTATE LOANS. OREGON AND WASHINGTON Trust Investment Company OF SCOTLAND.

Dr. H. SMITH, DENTIST. SALEM, OREGON. Office moved over BREYMAN BROS.' NEW STORE. Office hours from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.

Mrs. Rohrer's New Remedy FOR THE LUNGS IS MEETING WITH WONDERFUL SUCCESS!

THIS PURELY VEGETABLE REMEDY HAS no equal in the relief and cure of Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Bronchitis, Croup, Whooping Cough, Measles, &c. It has produced some remarkable cures. Sold by druggists generally. Prepared only by JOHN L. MURPHY, Monmouth, Or.

RUPTURE. Use no more Metallic Trusses. No more suffering from Iron Hoops or Steel Springs. Dr. Rowe's Patent Elastic Truss is worn with ease and comfort night and day, and will have performed radical cures when all others have failed. Reader, if you are ruptured, try one of Dr. Rowe's comfortable elastic appliances; you will never regret it. ROWE ELASTIC TRUSS COMPANY, 609 Sacramento St., San Francisco.

For Sale! THE FINE RESIDENCE corner of Commercial and Division streets, in desirable situation, with house large, well finished, and convenient. It is arranged, and grounds tastefully ornamented. Will be sold very low and on accommodating terms. Apply to LEO WILLIS, Patton's Block State St., SALEM.

NOTICE. UNTIL the completion of the organization of the new "Cooperative Garage" Association, the undersigned will remain in the city of Portland, and offer his services as purchasing agent. Will also, if possible, all produce consigned to his care to the best possible advantage, either in Portland or San Francisco. Business cash—commission 2 1/2 per cent. T. S. MATLOCK, Portland, Nov. 10, 1876.

Bag Factory. Sacks Mended, Carpets Made. ALL WORK OF THE KIND DONE IN BEST and neatest manner, at short notice. Shop on Court Street, SALEM, opposite the Commercial Hotel. Having opened business as above stated, I respectfully invite a share of public patronage. A. W. WALLER, 101 1/2

FARM IMPLEMENTS.



THE EVANS SULKY PLOW: Iron Beam, Iron Frame, Iron Wheels—Easily Operated. The latest and BEST Sulky Plow in the Market. Has the Hitch and Draft direct from the end of the Beam. Arranged to work either three or four horses abreast. See the EVANS before You buy!

THE OLIVER CHILLED-METAL PLOW, Will Scour where others fail. LIGHTEST DRAFT PLOW imported. Ask your Neighbors about them.

"Champion" Moline Plow: Acknowledged by all intelligent Farmers as the BEST Steel Plow made.

We have a full assortment of everything in our line: Mill-side Plows, Left-hand Plows, Cultivators, Harrows, Buckeye Broad-cast Seeders, Buckeye Grain Drills, BAIN Farm Wagons, Spring Wagons, Pacific Fan Mills, Portable Crust Mills, Mishawaka Ring-grinder Chopping-Mills, Victor Scales, Cider Mills, &c., &c.

Our Goods are all FIRST-CLASS—not rubbish that will not sell in California. Send for our Catalogue and Price List.

KNAPP, BURRELL & CO. Portland, Oregon, Oct. 6, 1876.

THE NEW HOME SEWING MACHINE.

Rotary Motion, Latest and Best. DOUBLE CAMS—Combines strength and simplicity. LIGHT RUNNING. Put Two Years since it was introduced in Oregon and Washington Territory. Takes the Preference with Many of P. of H. Every Machine GUARANTEED to give Satisfaction. LOW PRICES.



Improved Home Shuttle. FIRST MACHINES SOLD IN THIS CITY eight years since. LATEST STYLE. Cloth Plate Even with Table. JUST RECEIVED. NEW DRAW FEED. DEALING DIRECT WITH MANUFACTURERS, can sell these favorite Machines 25% LESS THAN OTHER MACHINES. SEND FOR NEW PRICE LIST, and SAVE YOUR MONEY. Oil Attachments and Needles for all Machines.

GEO. W. TRAVER, Manufacturers' Agent, 8 W. COR. MORRISON AND THIRD STS., PORTLAND, OREGON.

Home Mutual FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY. 406 California St., San Francisco. ORGANIZED, 1864.

Capital, \$300,000.00 Assets, \$568,547.45 Income, 1875, \$465,904.29 Losses paid out since organization, \$1,137,367.50

J. F. HOUGHTON, President, GEO. H. HOWARD, Vice President, CHARLES R. STORY, Secretary, H. H. BIGELOW, General Manager.

Oregon Branch. HAMILTON BOYD, General Manager, PORTLAND, OR.

Petite d'Agen PRUNE TREES. I HAVE SEVERAL THOUSAND OF THESE excellent and favorite Prune Trees, that I have raised myself from grafts on seedling stocks, that I will sell, as they are more than I need to plant. These Prunes make a very superior dried fruit, and are great and steady bearers. Where tried in Oregon they have been very successful, and are the most popular Prunes in many portions of California. These trees are yearlings, and, having been well cultivated on good hill soil, have made fine and healthy growth.

F. F. BRADFORD, PORTLAND, OR.

\$55 to \$77 a Week to Agents. Samples FREE. P. O. VICKERY, Augusta, Maine.

Willamette Farmer. ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY, BY CLARKE & CRAIG, PUBLISHERS AND PROPRIETORS. S. A. CLARKE, D. W. CRAIG.

Terms of Subscription. One copy, one year (12 numbers) \$2.50 One copy, six months (6 numbers) 1.50 One copy, three months (3 numbers) .75