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Will Wheat Turn to Chaff?

Since we have given evidence published in an Eastern Journal to the effect that wheat will turn to chaff or chear, we also add the following from E. Oldendorf to the Oregonian, who says:

Referring to Mr. Hewitt's letter, I am forced to say that said gentleman is laboring under a mistake. Wheat does not and cannot turn to chaff. That has been proved by the most searching scientific investigations.

I beg to observe that Mr. Hewitt takes from the outset a wrong bias in his assertion, because it is not as Mr. Hewitt is pleased to call it a question between facts and theories, but simply, well let us say between superstition and science.

The fact that the occurrence related, took place on a new piece of land makes not the slightest difference, because it is a well known fact that the seed of weeds lay dormant in the earth everywhere and anywhere where vegetation is possible, and are brought to life as soon as the conditions for the germinating process, moisture, air and warmth, are established.

Chess and Wheat.

Instances multiply where intelligent and observing farmers certify that they have known chess to come from wheat. W. Waterhouse, of Monmouth writes to the Oregonian:

I will say that I succeeded once in growing chess from a well developed head of wheat without taking the wheat out of the head, and the head and chaff was still visible when the chess was full grown, and I believe that I can produce the same result any time by the same or similar process.

Also, S. B. writes from Bellvue: About the year 1833 my brother and myself moved to the then new territory of Iowa, and located in Louisa county. In the month of June my brother broke up a new piece of prairie land, and in September or October he harvested it good and sowed it to wheat.

The Linn County Grange Convention met at Albany, April 24, and elected eight delegates to represent the Granges of Linn county in the State Grange, as follows: Bro. S. S. Train, J. R. South, David Smith, and Henry Cyrus, and sisters M. J. Train, L. J. South, Sarah J. Smith, and M. E. Crawford.

Mrs. Smallen's daughter, who was so badly burned in Portland, a short time ago, will recover.

Load Scrapers, etc.

Mr. Editor: D. M. Morris has undertaken to furnish the readers of your paper with a description of a wonderful road scraper, in which he says that a Mr. Clark Rogers made a road in one day with two good horses that would have taken forty men twenty days to have made and then not done half so well, this is truly wonderful, only think of eight hundred men for one day!

Working Roads.

Mr. Editor: The road question is being discussed from all parts of the State except Yamhill, and as I have seen nothing from this county, I will offer a few suggestions gathered from experience and observation. The roads need ditching on each side from two to four feet deep, according to the dampness of the land to be drained, so as to take the water from the surface of the road.

Lafayette, April 24.

Echoes from Dead Voices.

Nothing could be more incredible than the likelihood of once more hearing the voice of the dead, yet the invention of the new instrument is said to render this possible hereafter. It is true that the voices are stilled, but whoever has spoken or whoever may speak into the mouth piece of the phonograph, and whose words are recorded by it, has the assurance that his speech may be reproduced audibly in his own tones long after he himself has turned to dust.

The possibilities of the future are not much more wonderful than those of the present. The orator in Boston speaks, the indented strip of paper is the tangible result; but this travels under a second machine which may connect with the telephone.

writing be a proceeding of the past? Why not, if by simply talking into a mouthpiece our speech is recorded on paper, and our correspondent can by the same paper hear us speak? Are we to have a new kind of books? There is no reason why the orations of our modern Ciceros should not be recorded and detachably bound so that we can run the indented slips through the machine, and in the quiet of our own apartments listen again, and as often as we will, to the eloquent words.

HEALTHFULNESS OF MILK.—If any one wishes to grow fleshy, a pint of milk taken before retiring at night will soon cover the serawinited bones. Although now-a-days we see a good many fleshy females, there are many who sigh for the fashionable measure of plumpness, and who would be vastly improved in health and appearance if they could be rounded with good and solid flesh.

LETTER FROM BAKER COUNTY.

Editor Willamette Farmer: I write, thinking that a few remarks by some person in this far-off region might prove a relief to some of your many readers where a portion of the "banner county of the State" is situated.

POWDER RIVER VALLEY, which is the principal valley in this county, is twenty-five miles long, with an average width of about ten miles, with several smaller valleys of more or less importance adjacent to it. It is crossed by several beautiful streams of water which afford an abundant supply for all purposes.

There are seven school houses in this valley, outside of Baker City, in all of which from three to ten months' school have been taught the past year. In Baker City, the county seat, there is one good public school-house, one academy, and one Catholic school building, three churches, and many stores, shops, and other business establishments.

Any one acquainted with the subject will confer a favor by giving, through the columns of your paper, some information on seeding wild or natural meadow with clover; the best time to sow; and the most profitable kind of seed to be used on land that is overplowed every year from one to two months.

Baker City, April 8, 1878.

Fence-Building.

Editor Willamette Farmer: As I have not noticed any suggestions on this very important matter, I will endeavor to give some hints that may be of interest to some of the readers of your valuable paper. I have seen a great many fences that were built by some of our wealthiest farmers and supposed excellent managers, that are certainly quite a blunder, where they have built rail or worm fences down hill instead of up hill.

LONG TOM, April 8, 1878.

Mr. Editor: Will some person please give us a remedy, through your paper, for the destruction of English sorrel? It is the worst pest I ever saw in farming. K.

Plain Talk from Leading Journals.

Senator Mitchell may consider himself at liberty to concoct a railroad bill with the sole object of securing a re-election in Oregon, but it is difficult to believe that the senate committee will help him to play his little game. His bill, as reported by a sub-committee, conveys the idea that he is less faithful even to Oregon than to Mr. Jay Gould and the other magnates of the present transcontinental roads.

Senator Mitchell, chairman of the senate's committee of Pacific Railroads, seems to be using Mr. Jay Gould's work in this state. His sub-committee has reported a bill which is entitled "A bill to extend the time of the Northern Pacific railway." It is really a bill to destroy the Northern Pacific, and to make a new grant from the public domain to Mr. Gould's Portland, South Pass and Salt Lake road, being another feeder of the Union Pacific, projected by Mr. Gould and a little nest of remarkably accommodating senators, whom he has to all appearances at his disposal.

Aaron A. Sargent does not like the senate judiciary committee's bill to hold the Pacific Railway Companies to the honest payment of the interest and principal of the bonds loaned them by the United States.

It is a fairer bill than the one reported by the senate. He likes the Mitchell bill better, because that was dictated by the corporation managers and is simply no remedy at all, but increases their advantage over the government. The net profits of the Central Pacific since the road has been in operation are estimated at over \$20,000,000.

The Snake River Country Growth.

The Snake (W. T.) News says: We learn that at one ferry alone on Snake river, the Peru-was-see, there have crossed during the past year 700 families. Then allowing 500 to have crossed at all the other ferries, there have been added to the counties of Whitman and Stevens, 1,200 families.

The State of Oregon. About the last of this month the finest vessel in the world, the State of Oregon, will be due at Portland, and we think it would be a good scheme of the railroad and steamboat companies to reduce their fares to half price in order that our citizens may be present and witness the "good ship" when she comes in.

Quarrel Over Brigham Young's Estate. Hales Young and Ernest Young, polygamous children of the late Brigham Young, have filed complaint in the district court, Utah, in which they allege that John Taylor, trustee in trust for the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints, claims in behalf of the church \$500,000 from the estate of deceased.

A BIRD RACE.

The President of the Louisville Jockey Club has perfected arrangements by which Ten Broeck and the California wonder, Mollie Mc Carthy, are to run four mile heats at Louisville July 4th for the sum of \$10,000 two or three other races will be given, and this will be the grandest day's racing ever seen in America.

Cruelty to Animals.

On Monday night a cow belonging to C. C. Hunsaker made her way into the yard of John Biggs, of North Salem, and Mr. Biggs went for her there and then, using, as Mr. Hunsaker alleges, an axe to accelerate her speed in leaving his premises. Hunsaker had Biggs arrested and brought before Justice James Coffey on a charge of cruelty to animals, and he was adjudged guilty of the charge and fined \$10 and costs, which amount he dispensed and went his way.

Handsome Nugget.

From a correspondent writing from Prineville under date of 24 inst., says the Standard, we learn that Mr. Wickiser had a few days previously found a fine nugget in the Ochooc mines. It was four inches long, one-half an inch wide and nearly an eighth of an inch in thickness. These mines promise to turn out finely, and will yet be among the richest in that section.

Busy Farmers.

While passing from Turner's Station last Monday by the way of Parrish's Gap to Jackson Hill in this county, but a few hours' ride, we counted 42 teams running as many plows and harrows.

John Law's Wedding Day.

John Law's wedding day, in South Bend, Ind., was envisioned in an unusual way. One of his discarded sweet-hearts went to the hotel where he and his bride lodged, called him into the parlor and shot him.

Bats a few hundred dollars remain to be raised on the first ten miles of the Yaquina Bay railroad.

Hyatt's Life Balm.

As a conqueror of Rheumatism, Gout, Neuralgia, and cure for zosteritis and all diseases arising from impurity of blood, the old and reliable Family Medicine, Hyatt's Life Balm, is a valuable preparation, as proven by over 300,000 cures during the past 30 years.

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Will stand the ensuing season, at or near Salem.

The pedigree of this horse is so well known as to need no further description.

TERMS---\$25 The Season.

Good pasture can be had at reasonable rates.

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JAS. F. BYDEE.

Salem, O.

DIED. SCOTT—Windmill Scott, oldest son of Captain L. Scott, died last evening at 11 o'clock. Aged about 65 years.