

Members Missing
 March 31
 April 14-21
 July 3-17
 Aug 11-18
 Sept 22-29
 Oct 29-16-23
 Nov 3-17
 Dec 8-5



VOL. XIV.

PORTLAND, OREGON, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1882.

NO. 1.

Correspondence.

Our Turner Correspondence.

TURNER, Or., Feb. 13, 1882.
 Editor Willamette Farmer:

In the last number of your paper the much-discussed and vexatious question of sheep-killing dogs is dwelt upon at some length by a sufferer from this ubiquitous nuisance. It is undoubtedly a matter of some surprise to the uncivilized barbarian or "heathen Chinee" who may come among us that in a land where the people boast so much as we do of our "enlightenment" and "civilization," and our "best government the sun ever shone upon," that one man should be allowed to keep domestic animals which prey upon those of his neighbors almost at their own sweet will, and with scarcely a show of restraint on the part of the keeper, or redress on that of the sufferer. Yet it is so; and the greatest drawback to sheep husbandry in Oregon is the depredations of marauding dogs. To make a law allowing no more than one dog to be kept by a family, as suggested by your correspondent from McCoy, would be only a palliative remedy. I believe that, as a rule, the most worthless and irresponsible persons keep the most worthless dogs, think the most of them, and take the least care of them. Then let us have a law requiring every one to keep their dogs in a safe enclosure, the same as in the case of other vicious animals, not allowing them abroad unless under the immediate control of a competent master, under a forfeiture of the dog's life, at the hands of any one who chooses to kill it. Also, make the owner, or keeper of any dog criminally responsible for any misdemeanor done by such dog, exactly the same as though such owner or keeper had committed the same crime himself, and punishable accordingly. Provided that the punishment may be avoided upon the payment of reasonable damages to the plaintiff, and the costs and disbursements of the action.

Dog laws will pronounce this a radical and entire remedy. It is, and it is just what is wanted, that is, a remedy as radical and severe as the sheep interest exceeds the dog interest to the country. Next to women and children I love a good dog or horse; and a dog that is worth having is worth taking care of and feeding, and it is certainly a great piece of impudence in the part of keepers of dogs that the sheep interest of the country should be constantly menaced that they may indulge in keeping their full of worthless curs.

Some law of this kind for dogs (or their keepers), and banishment and the W. P. for petty thieves is greatly needed in Oregon. A good argument in support of petitions to our Legislature for this object would be to encourage traps and dogs to visit the flocks and houses of our State Senators and representatives.

The "crank," William Campbell, described in your paper last week, who broke into the house of John R. Foster, on the 31st inst., and was sent to jail on the 5th, broke jail on the 10th, and is now at large. More and very satisfactory evidence of his guilt has been obtained since his examination and commitment to jail.
 B. O. HEMMAN.

Letter from Farmington, W. T.
 FARMINGTON, Feb. 6, 1882.
 Editor Willamette Farmer:
 With pen in hand and seated by a comfortable fire, I will endeavor to furnish a few items for the columns of the almost indispensable Farmer; and as a consequence of human nature, will write of things which most interest people of this vicinity are doubly interested toward the Sabbath day, as the Jones has been advocating the advent doctrine here for about a year, and in consequence thereof we have had a Sabbath and Sunday of each week as days of rest.

We hear that money makes the mare go, and if it be true, the old nag will stop when she gets here, for in this part we are indebted to tradition for the knowledge of money. However, from the same source we learn that there is always sunshine after a shower. We are having a beautiful Winter here; sleighing and weather calm and comfortable; and it is quite amusing to a webfoot to see the products of a country all moved on sleighs. I understand that no less than forty teams were on the road between here and Cheney one day last week, moving the grain on sleighs, and the farmers tell me that in this way they haul from 2,000 to 2,500 pounds with one pair of well horses; and indeed it looks reasonable, for freighting from here to Cheney, a distance of forty miles, is only half a cent per pound; merchants here take grain for goods; they pay three-quarters of a cent per pound for oats, and two-thirds of a cent per pound for good wheat. Myself and others are desirous

of buying of some breeders of fowls in or near Portland (if there are any) some good fowls. We have been watching for their advertisements to appear in your paper, and do not know how else to get their address. This country is well adapted for mixed husbandry. The greatest trouble has been heretofore that webfooters tried to continue in webfoot ways, which is altogether too thin here in the Winter.

Below I will give you a report of the weather for January, 1882, at this place: There were five days on which rain fell; ten days on which snow fell; ten cloudy days, and six clear days. The prevailing winds were: Southeast, twenty days; southwest, five days; north, six days. The highest daily temperature at 2 p. m. was 40 deg. on the 1st, 2d and 18th. The lowest daily temperature at 7 a. m. and 5 p. m. was 10 deg below zero, on the 27th. The mercury stood on and below zero on the following days: 15th, 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th.
 F. S. BARBER.

Monopolies.

Editor Willamette Farmer:
 Farmers complain of hard times and of the grasping greed of corporations, and often without stopping to inquire whose fault it is that a few are allowed to take unto themselves the special privileges of ruling over the many and dictating to courts and law makers. Farmers, laborers and others opposed to such an arrangement comprise four fifths of the voting population. Then it would seem an easy matter to compel obedience to that great and just law that all persons should be endowed with the same equal rights and privileges.

If A, B and C are agreed as to the threatened danger to their adjoining farms from a break in the banks of the river, it is an easy matter, nay, it becomes an absolute necessity that they should unite their forces in defense of their property. But great corporations affect the interest of the many, and the very fact of the number makes the body unwieldy and difficult to move and easily divided and demoralized. While great corporations as a rule have but one head, and the different ones when necessary quickly and easily combine interests in pursuit of their policy, aggressive or defensive, farmers acknowledge no leaders among themselves, and are slow to join any movement towards intelligent and successful action unless marshaled by some one with a great name, and very often by a dishonest politician. Such movements lead to nothing, unless it be to the discomfiture of the farmers themselves. How then shall we accomplish that great end towards which we are all looking, equal justice and rights to all? For one, I am watching and looking to see with whom or what body I shall cast my vote in order to render the greatest aid. Who shall lead us, politicians or farmers.
 J. S. CHURCHILL.

Mohawk, Lane Co., Oregon.
Letter from Weston, Oregon.
 WESTON, Or., Feb. 8, 1882.
 Editor Willamette Farmer:
 As I see no correspondents to your valuable paper from this vicinity, I will send you a few items. The health of the country has been unusually good throughout the season, with the exception of a few cases of small-pox and scarlet fever. The family of Rev. B. F. King, living near Wild Horse creek, fell victims to the dread disease, small-pox. Mr. King and six of his children all had it, but are now well again. There has not been a case of diphtheria for a long time, but my knowledge. The town of Centerville was thrown into excitement yesterday, about 2 o'clock p. m., by the shooting and killing, almost instantly, of James Coyle, by Ben Swagart, saloon keeper, of that town. The particulars of the shooting are not known at present writing, as the preliminary examination of the murderer is not concluded. J. Coyle's aged mother is almost frantic with grief. She has the sympathy of her many friends in her sad bereavement. The Winter has been unusually mild until the 20th of January, since which time there has been some snow; at present the snow is six inches deep, but a Chinook wind is threatened. Those owing bands of sheep will have to feed a few days. Sheep are in good condition. The butchers have no difficulty in securing good beef on the range. Fall-sown grain looks well, and most of the plowing is done for a Spring crop. There is a vast amount of government land taken in the west part of this county, known as the Butter and Will-w Creek country, land that has heretofore been considered suitable only for grazing purposes. For fear my writing may become weary, I will close, wishing the Farmer success.
 J. R. KING.

Water City News: 1,170 acres of placer and quartz diggings were located for mining purposes in this county during the year 1881.

Clear Lake Anti-Monopoly League.

IRVING, Lane Co., Or., Feb. 8, 1882.
 Editor Willamette Farmer:

At a meeting of Clear Lake Anti-Monopoly League, Feb. 4, 1882, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That we are in favor of meeting in convention and co-operating with all other Leagues in Lane county.

Resolved, That we demand of our Senators and Representatives the regulation of pilotage and towage on the Columbia river and bar, so as to destroy the present monopoly in that business, and open the same to competition.

Resolved, To reduce the fees of County Clerks and Sheriffs, or to make them salaried officers.

Resolved, That fares and freights on railroads should be controlled by law, compelling them to submit to a just law regulating interchange of commerce.

Resolved, That railroad companies should be compelled to pay for stock killed by them, in the county where the damage occurs.

Resolved, That we demand of the present political parties that they place in nomination only such men as will pledge themselves to use their utmost endeavors to secure the passage of laws in accordance with the foregoing resolutions, and others that may be for the best good of the whole people.

Resolved, That the Secretary be authorized to furnish the Eugene Journal and Guard, Willamette Farmer and Vidette with copies of the foregoing, with the request that they be published.
 A. C. JENNINGS, Sec.

Multnomah Pomona Grange Meeting.

EAST PORTLAND, Feb. 10, 1882.
 Editor Willamette Farmer:

Notice is hereby given that Multnomah District Pomona Grange No. 6 will convene at East Portland, in the hall of Multnomah Grange No. 71 (above Dalton's hardware store), Saturday, February 18, at 10 o'clock a. m. The officers elect for the ensuing year will probably be installed by Hon. Judge R. P. Boise, Worthy Master of the Oregon State Grange, at said meeting, and a very interesting time is expected. All Fourth Degree members are cordially invited to attend.
 JAMES J. JOHNSON, Sec.

Umatilla County.

The following is taken from the Weston Leader and is an account of the editor's trip from Weston to Heppner. It shows the thrift and product, as well as gives a general description of that county. We have written much concerning Umatilla and the surrounding counties:

Centerville gives unmistakable evidences of permanent prosperity and general thrift. Possessed of enterprising citizens and surrounded by rich and extensive agricultural lands, there is no reason why it should not still continue to enlarge and improve for many years to come, as it has since its commencement. Looking at the beautiful location one cannot fail to regret the short-sighted policy and lack of public enterprise that prevented its earlier establishment, for local pride would "in early days" have made the old stage station on Wild Horse the nucleus of so important a town as would have forever prevented any near rival. In spite, however, of all this, Centerville bids fair to become a trade center of no mean pretensions.

The rapid advancement made by Pendleton under the impetus of the railroad boom, has been of the most gratifying character. The improvements have been of a most gratifying character. The improvements have been of a most substantial nature and clearly show the faith of the people in the future in their town. The establishment there of a National Bank proves that the importance of this town is not unknown to the outside world. The building of a road to Pendleton will still continue to further brighten its prospects, while the effect of carrying the road beyond that place and making it a mere way station remains to be seen. The fears honestly entertained by many on this point, they take no pains to conceal. But irrespective of railroad influences, Pendleton has many of the factors that combine to produce a town of considerable importance and influence, and that it will long continue to be such there seems to be no reasonable doubt.

Heppner presents a rather prepossessing appearance and has an air of general prosperity that speaks well for the commercial importance of the place. The people are generous, hospitable and energetic. Up to this time the principal sources of revenue of the place has been from the stock and sheep interests of the country surrounding it. The extent of the latter may be inferred from the fact that there are owned within a radius of twenty miles of Heppner over 200,000 sheep. It is safe to assume that these will average at least six pounds of wool apiece or 1,200,000 pounds, which at an average price of twenty cents per pound yields the handsome sum of \$240,000 a year. The stock interests which are perhaps on the wane are yet of no mean proportions. Many thousand head of cattle

are yearly driven from this district. Mr. Kyger, of the well known firm of Searight & Kyger, informed us that he had just completed the purchase of 2000 head of cattle at prices ranging from \$8 to \$20 per head, which he will drive in the Spring to their immense stock ranch in Wyoming to be ready for the market the following year. Cattle driven from here are too thin after the long travel to be in a marketable condition. It is said that bunch grass lands are subject to a regular rotation of uses, cattle, sheep and grain. It is true of the vicinity of Heppner that the sheep have already driven off the horses and cattle to a great extent, and now it seems as if the granger was pressing hard on the heels of the herder. Much land that a few years ago was considered valueless for agricultural purposes has been filled up by intending farmers, and no doubt the wealth of grain will soon vie with the wealth of wool. But there are vast stretches of country that will never be as valuable for the grain they may produce as for the grass they now spontaneously yield. There is one thing that reflects creditably on the people of Heppner; in their lively interest in educational affairs. Their public school house is one of the finest in the county. The present teachers are Prof. J. W. Grant and Miss E. Wiley, who have had charge of the school for more than a year. The school is maintained all the year round, the insufficient government money being supplemented by a direct tax levied by the district.

Valleys and Rivers in Lake County.

The State Line Herald gives the following sketch of rivers and valleys in Lake county: Lost river rises in Clear lake, Modoc county, California, and in its course describes the curve of a horse shoe, flowing first to the north and east, veering to the northwest, rounding to the southwest, where it enters the Klamath Basin, finally to the southeast, where it enters into Tule lake within five miles of the source, after a course of seventy-five miles, most wholly in this State. This stream, aside from its pages in history, is of interest as playing some very peculiar pranks in nature. Shortly after leaving its source in Clear lake, it enters Langell valley by a subterranean passage, and for a distance of twenty miles is only seen where the crust, several feet in thickness, is broken through and the water appears in holes and pools, called by the people "pot-holes," though its course is well defined by a depression in the surface, which resolves itself into a large and turbulent river in the springtime, when the great accumulation of waters cannot be forced through the subterranean channel, and comes to the surface for room to "spread itself." At Bonanza a village is located at what was formerly known as Big Springs, this eccentric stream again comes to the surface in a cluster of immense springs, and within two hundred yards wide and fifteen feet deep, a clear and sparkling river, and many of the first settlers remember when, near its mouth, in the vicinity of Tule lake, a natural bridge spanned it, over which many a weary emigrant has driven his team in safety. But this bridge is now covered with several feet of water.

LANGELL VALLEY.

Is located near the boundary line of California, extends north and south, and is about eight miles long by two miles wide, is well watered, and is a large and prosperous settlement. Vegetables and grain are produced in abundance, there is a bountiful supply of fine timber surrounding the valley, and settlers seem fully justified in pronouncing it a favored spot. From this valley, following the whole course of the river, there is a fine margin of excellent land which, however, is mostly taken, and considerable of it is being cultivated. To the north of Bonanza the valley spreads out for about fifteen miles to the foot of Yanax mountain, and is known as

ALKALI VALLEY.

From an alkali lake, usually dry late in the season, and presents a clear white surface of alkali entirely void of vegetation. Around the margin of this lake is an extensive tract of fine meadow land, watered by springs, and bordering on this comes the strong black sage loam, the value of which is becoming known, as will be apparent by the rapid manner in which it is being settled. This valley is also supplied with timber from the heavy forests of pine and fir intermingled with cedar, which surrounds it. And when timber is spoken of in Lake county, only such as is here described is intruded, as there is no oak or other hard wood. Juniper is plentiful on the table lands and in the dryer parts of the valleys, but generally stands as an index to rocky ground. Leaving Alkali valley and crossing a low range of timbered mountains, about eight miles brings us to

SPRAQUE'S RIVER VALLEY.

The river is of considerable size, is well stored with fish, and fringed with cotton

wood and willow, running through a very beautiful and well watered valley, about thirty miles long, and from one to five miles in width. The lands are principally meadow, the stream is tributary to the Big Klamath lake, and a great part of the valley lies within the Klamath Indian reservation consequently is not open for settlement. Its climate is cool, and generally conceded not to be adapted to agriculture, except for the hardiest plants and vegetables. The course of the river is toward the west. The upper part of the valley, lying outside of the reservation, has quite a settlement of stockmen, who have an immense range on the hills that surround them. Timber is also abundant and of good quality, while the valley supplies them with all the hay that the severity of their Winters demand. Moving on to the east over a timbered mountain by a low and easy pass a distance of twenty miles brings us to

DREW'S VALLEY.

About twelve miles east and west, by an average of three miles in width. This, like upper Sprague's river, is occupied almost wholly by stock men, but little effort having been made to till the soil; yet those who have tried it assert the success of their experiment. Most of the Pacific Coast has been visited by the writer, yet we have seen few mountain valleys more attractive than this one, before the mere and yellow leaf asserts its Autumn sway

Death of J. Van Burden.

One of the pleasantest friendships we have made in this city was with J. Van Burden, the well-known jeweler, who was an accomplished man, a perfect gentleman, and possessed many lovable traits and genuine good qualities. Though foreign born he was an ardent American. He was a man who inspired confidence by his look, and whose business thrived on the basis of personal regard, for he had many friends. He was only 33 years of age, and the picture of health, but pneumonia is no respecter of age, and on morning we were more than shocked to know that our friend was with us no more; that his beautiful eyes were closed in the long sleep of death. It seems a calamity when one who has youth and good qualities to make a long life useful, and who is so well beloved, is suddenly taken away and leaves a dearly cherished wife and little ones to mourn a desolate home. God have pity on them! But as for the friend so many have lost, the husband an father this dear family have lost, we can easily believe that the Merciful Father has him in his keeping, and that the good qualities that endeared him to us on earth will grow to greater perfection in the hereafter.

Rogue River Farmers Must Furnish Supplies.

Vice President R. Kohler requests us to put the farmers of the Rogue River Valley on guard as to a very important fact that relates to their interest. This season and next railroad work will be prosecuted along the line. The people of that region will be called on to furnish horses for team-work and supplies of all kinds needed for the comfort of man and beast. The chances are that they will find a good home market for all they can raise, and the company will not bring supplies from the north if they can buy in Jackson and Josephine counties. Times in Southern Oregon should be as good for two years to come as they ever were when gold mines paid the best.

Oregon Inventions.

An improved sulky plow has been patented by Mr. George Applegate, of Yoncalla, Oregon. The object of the invention is to provide means whereby the depth and width of the furrow cut by the plow may be easily regulated and the plow controlled while in motion, and to provide a plow of light construction and draught, and one which can be easily turned at the corners, and capable of such manipulation as to adapt it for plowing in indirect lines or curves.

An improved flax puller has been patented by Mr. Samuel W. Gaines, of Scio, Oregon. In using the machine, as it is moved forward the flax is clamped between reel bars and a padded drum, and is pulled by the reel and drum and deposited upon a platform whence it can be raked off by hand, or by an automatic mechanism connected with and driven from the driving parts of the machine.—Scientific American.

We take pleasure in calling attention to the advertisement in our columns of the mammoth seed-house of D. M. Ferry & Co., Detroit, Mich., the most extensive seed dealers in the country, whose business has been built up entirely through the quality and purity of the seeds they supply, and who have thus obtained the confidence and patronage of the public as reliable seedsmen. Their annual catalogue for 1882, containing a vast amount of useful information suited to all who have a flower or vegetable garden, can be obtained from them free on application.

REDUCED SUBSCRIPTION PRICE.

Our charge for subscription at home is invariably \$2 50 a year; but as we wish to encourage Eastern people to read about this region, we offer to send the FARMER to subscribers from other States for two dollars a year, or one dollar for six months.

GENERAL NOTES.

Following are the names of the officers of the Baker City Grange No. 152: W. H. Bentley, W. M.; Wm. Ballock, O.; I. D. Haines, L.; John Steward, S.; Sam. Waltz, A. S.; L. Jones, C.; C. H. Clement, T.; Thos. Smith, Secretary; Wm. Gunn, G. K.; Sister T. F. Smith, Ceres; Sister M. Ballock, Flora; Sister Mary Jones, Pomona.

Wm. Ross, of Pilot Rock, Umatilla county, has sold, since last July, 239 bucks, 126 thoroughbreds, for \$8,510; ewes to the amount of \$5,245, and wool to the amount of \$6,930. The sales of wool were from 3,653 sheep.

John Smith, a saloon keeper, of Weiser City, last Thursday, disputed with a man by the name of James Johnson, and finally drew a pistol and shot Johnson, killing him instantly. Smith was arrested, and, at last accounts, was being examined by the examining magistrate.

Weston Leader: Just consider, Umatilla county has now eighty-two organized school districts, including about five thousand school children. These districts are scattered from one end of the county to the other—nearly one hundred and fifty miles. To oversee all this we have one county superintendent, with a salary entirely too small to support him respectably at home, without considering any traveling expenses.

The Weston Leader thus describes a portion of Umatilla county: The Willow Creek country is attracting more and more attention from intending settlers. It is fair to assume that in two years more time, it will be as thickly settled as any agricultural portion of the county. With this accession to population will be a corresponding increase in business, new towns grow up, new trade centres are established, school houses are built, and, in brief, progress stamp its impress on that part of the county. The first great requisite, good soil, is there, and the industrious husbandman now alone is needed.

Lake County Herald: The weather, strictly the past two months has been exceptional in its favorability. We have had no snow, and the fact, considerably snow has fallen, but it remains evenly distributed. Stock has fared exceedingly well. Feed is abundant; the range was available until a short time since. A great many bands of stock are being wintered on the desert, and all reported to be doing well. Altogether, the Winter has been mild and stock is doing better than usual.

Grant County News: Col. Lang has been in this vicinity during the present week buying cattle and sheep to drive to Eastern markets during the coming Summer. He has not heretofore driven any sheep from this section, but is going to try it this season. It is claimed that a drove of sheep will travel as far in a day as cattle, while they are less trouble and the expense of taking them through is also considerably less per head. Mr. Lang has bought one flock of mutton sheep at the round price of \$1.75 per head. This is the highest price ever paid for mutton sheep here, and would seem to be enough to afford fair remuneration for the cost of raising them in this land of free grass. A reliable and steady market for mutton sheep is what this country badly needs, and if they can be successfully driven to the East, and at the same sale for a fair price here it will be a good thing for sheep men. The close of the present year will probably see the completion of the Oregon Short Line railroad nearly or quite to the eastern border of the State, in which event stock of all kinds may be shipped to the Eastern States with only a short drive.

Grant County News: The clerk of the weather has furnished us with some genuine Winter weather during the present week. The mercury was 4 degrees below zero on the 29th ult. This is the lowest temperature experienced here for several seasons, and, although warm when compared to that which has prevailed in the Northeastern States, it makes Oregonians shiver.

The Freeman mine, Lemhi county, Idaho, says the Statesman, has been decided to a company who will work it with a capital of \$500,000. The late owners, Geo. L. Shoup, Thaddeus C. Pond, William A. Wallace, Theo. F. Singier, and James Glendinning, have made a good thing in the transaction, which is said to be the largest mine sale ever effected in that section.

DEED OF STARVATION.

An Aged Hermit Dies in a Lonely Cabin in Josephine County.

An inquest has been held on the body of the man found some days since by Volk's surveying party in a cabin on Cow creek, Josephine county. The jury rendered a verdict that "they believed it to be the body of John Sweet; that he came to his death by starvation, and had been dead about three months." The Jacksonville Sentinel says no provisions of any kind were found in the cabin. The deceased was lying on the bare floor in his clothes. In one corner of the cabin was a bunk containing a few blankets and old clothes, on a rack on the wall was an old rifle gun and plenty of ammunition. No marks of violence of any kind were discovered on the body. John Sweet is said to have been a native of New York, and at 50 years of age. He left no relatives in this country as far as known. His remains were buried near the cabin. A pine board bears the inscription, "John Sweet, buried Feb. 3, 1882." He had been a hermit for years in this vicinity. Once before he came near dying of starvation. He only came to the settlement at long intervals, and that only to get ammunition.