

News Department.

Telegraphic News

Stockton is damaged \$50,000 by a flood.

Wm. M. Everts is a candidate for the U. S. Senate from New York.

At Syracuse, Van Varlin, a pensioner of the war of 1882 died, aged 104.

A snow storm at Chicago blocked trains and seriously interrupted travel.

A branch of Marine Signal Service Bureau will be established in San Francisco.

At Elmira, New York, two oil tanks burned holding 30,000 barrels each, loss \$100,000.

Christmas was dull in the great cities of Europe because of hard times and scarcity of money.

The infernal machine found in a London railway station turned out to be a bottle of horse medicine.

The La Porte, Indiana, savings bank has closed doors, liabilities \$75,000, assets \$90,000; depositors safe.

B. Platt Carpenter, a New York politician, has been appointed and confirmed Governor of Montana.

A grain elevator burned in Dallas, Texas, loss \$500,000. Two men on the upper part burned to death.

Queen Victoria is alarmed at hearing that great distress exists through the kingdom and wishes to get up relief subscriptions.

The roof of the Walla Walla Opera House fell in though the snow was shoveled off. The house was poorly built, no doubt.

The New Orleans exposition is proceeding very prosperously, many new attendants arrived and much more to increase the exhibit.

The mail down the Columbia blocked mail for Oregon comes via California and by steam to Portland. Letters go from here the same way.

Cowboys captured a passenger train in Texas and shot holes through the roof and knocked out the windows but did not rob the passengers.

Specimens of rock and earth found in Clermont county, Ohio, on several farms, yield \$1,000 gold to the ton. A company is formed to buy the farms.

Monongahela coal miners have gone out on a strike for increased wages; 4,000 men quit work. Near Denver, Colorado, 1,200 coal miners have resumed work at old wages, after a strike.

A strong sentiment in favor of the Nicaragua treaty is growing in the United States. The Hawaiian treaty is to be modified and something will have to be changed to get the Spanish treaty in shape to be acceptable.

It is discovered that Frank Sidney, of Rochester, New York, set fire to many person's houses in Canada who was an officer and had to execute the temperance law. The liquor dealers hired him to do it, and he, like a fool, told of it and is now in jail.

Mark Lane Review says recent rain fall has improved appearance of winter wheat and crop prospects are promising. Foreign wheats in small demand. A fair business done in California cargoes, thirteen cargoes sold at 33c to 35c.

Gov. Cleveland will resign the Governorship of New York early in January and will spend two months in Albany and will go to Washington March 1st, accompanied by his sister, who will reside at the White House. About February 1st, he will spend a week in New York City.

A great celebration will be held February 21, at the base of the Washington monument, to dedicate the structure for all time. All public organizations are invited to participate and officials of the government, also army and navy, and Congress, will be there in full force. The programme of exercises will be very interesting.

The transcontinental association of railroads, by their agents, are holding a convention at Chicago to determine what freight charges will be for the year to come, but there are so many interests and all want the lion's share, that it is possible the concern may break up in a row and no agreement be made by which all will abide.

The Sharon divorce decision is a fearful overhauling of all parties and suits the people. The plaintiff is shown up as a perjurer and abandoned woman. The lawyers are terribly raked down for their unscrupulous course. Sharon is shown up truthfully. The decision is dignified and well written, Sharon is worth \$30,000,000, mostly city property. The case has already cost him \$200,000.

The long and disgusting trial in the Sharon divorce case, at San Francisco has ended. A Miss Hall, not to good by any means, claimed to be the wife of Mr. Sharon, the millionaire, and brought letters into court to prove that she was his wife where he called her so. Sharon swore they were forgeries. The trial lasted for four months and the Judge says the perjury on both sides was overwhelming and disgusting. Judge Sullivan decided that she is his wife and entitled to a divorce and a share of the property. Sharon will appeal the case.

State and Territorial News. Smith Mullen of Milwaukee raised a white Norfolk turnip that weighed fifteen pounds.

The Northern Pacific Railroad has not been blockaded this winter. Owing to snow and intense cold trains have occasionally been delayed a few hours, nothing worse than that between St. Paul and Wallula.

John Ebbat, a bachelor in Washington county, probably had a fit, as he was found with his feet in the fire, badly burned to the knee.

The Portland Board of Trade has appointed a non-partisan committee to formulate a new city charter. The committee are D. P. Thompson, Judge Dandy, B. Goldsmith, Henry Failing, John Catlin, S. Pennoyer, R. S. Denham, J. S. Raleigh, J. C. Moreland, E. D. McKee, B. O'Hard.

In answer to some one who says: "Feed the birds," the Oregonian says "no one can be found who has seen a bird for a week past that wasn't dead." Whereas our yard is alive with half a dozen kinds of wide awake and alive birds that appreciate all the crumbs we give.

December 9th the friends of Rev. G. W. Warmouth and wife met at their residence in Halsey to celebrate the 50th anniversary of their wedding. They have seven children, sons, all living, but three live in Washington Territory. A short service was held by Rev. James Pearl; a bountiful dinner was eaten and the guests spent a pleasant evening.

Selecting Potatoes for seed.

For several years past the matter of selecting potatoes for seed has been frequently discussed, some preferring certain parts of the potato while others preferred using the whole seed or a certain number of eyes. It is demonstrated that the seed end is in every respect equal to any other portion of the potato, with a decided advantage in its favor so far as weight of crop is concerned, though the actual number of the best potatoes came from the center eyes. The vitality of eyes used as seed improves according to their terminal position upon the potato. The yield in proportion for an acre is 206 bushels for the butt eyes, 259 bushels for the center eyes and 282 bushels for the seed-end eyes. The experiments demonstrate that single eyes used as seed yielded a satisfactory crop per hill, while the crop was also more uniform in quality than from whole potatoes or ordinary cuts, and yielded a smaller proportion of small potatoes than ordinary cuts of whole potatoes. In comparing ordinary cuts with whole potatoes more favorable results were derived from the cuts than from the whole ones, and especially so when the amount of seed used is subtracted from the whole crop. It was demonstrated that single eyes when cut deeply, so as to contain some substance, gave much better yields than when cut shallow. Early planting gave better results in quality and total yield than when later planting was practiced. In regard to distance between the seed in the hills it was demonstrated that close planting diminished the yield of good potatoes and increased the yield of small potatoes by measure, while fertilizer left over from a previous season exercised a marked influence upon the crop. In the experiments of others the planting of whole potatoes seemed to give the best results, but when the large quantity of seed so used is subtracted from the yield it is doubtful if any advantage is gained when the cost is considered. The seed ends may be used for producing large potatoes by placing the seed at a greater distance in the rows, and it is probable that by using less seed and more thorough tillage better results may be obtained in proportion to labor and amount of seed used.

Horse Constipation.

The condition can generally be relieved by giving a feed of four quarts of apples or potatoes every night for a week. Try this for a week and if satisfactory results are not obtained place a kettle containing four quarts of water on the fire. Add to this one pint of clean flaxseed. Boil until thoroughly cooked and the liquid is reduced about one-fourth by evaporation. Put four quarts of sweet wheat bran in a clean pail and add a tablespoonful of salt. Pour the flaxseed tea, with the seeds, into the pail containing the bran. Stir the same with a clean stick or other implement until the bran is thoroughly wet, then cover closely with something to retain the steam, and set aside until cool enough to be eaten; then place the pail containing the mash in the manger of the horse. If he is not inclined to eat it pour a pint of dry oats in the centre, and before he finishes the oats he will be likely to get a taste of the mash. If the horse is worked six days out of the week, give the mash the night before he is to have a day's rest. Repeat this once a week through the winter. Many horses are benefited by giving them from two to four quarts of dry wheat bran daily, dividing it into two feeds and giving it with the grain morning and night. This has a tendency to prevent constipation and give the coat a bright, glossy appearance. Some horses will thrive on six quarts of oats and four quarts of bran daily, than upon eight quarts of oats without the bran.

Quince cuttings may be taken now and treated in the same way as currants. Cut this year's wood, nearly back to the old growth, and select only thirty cuttings from thrifty limbs, as they will make more hardy bushes. While more cuttings may take root if not cut as far back as to the old wood, yet they will not be as hardy, and a less number will live through the ensuing year. The high price of quinces and the ease of growing them should encourage farmers to put in more of them. They like a moist soil and liberal manuring.

THE MORAL POINT OF VIEW.

While we do not approve the common use of tobacco, hops and barley, nor the manufacture of corn, rye and wheat into whisky and apples into spirits and grapes into wine and brandy, we grow those articles for sale and ask no questions. That there is a moral question involved of great importance is not to be denied and many a man would decline to produce the articles named if he was to be responsible for the consequences. He sells in ignorance of the coming use and as other uses are possible, that are legitimate and proper from the moral point of view he is absolved by the world from complicity with the brewer, wine maker or distiller. The following paragraph brings the matter home to every producer. At a meeting of the tobacco growers of the Connecticut valley a man rose in the audience and offered a resolution evidently not provided for in the programme, "that the use of tobacco ought to be encouraged in the public schools." To say that the convention was "set back" by this way of putting the case is a mild statement of the situation. A dead silence ensued, only broken by the mover saying: "Why do you balk, gentlemen? If this is legitimate business why not push it?" There were fathers there with growing sons in the public schools, and they would look with anything but approval on an attempt to start up a brisk cigar trade among them by some enterprising agent. Tobacco was a good thing to make money with, but not just the stuff for boys to use, at least not their boys. They did not pass the resolution. The writer, moralizing upon the fact, cites an item of evidence that "tobacco leads to strait drinks as naturally as water flows down hill." "Jerry McAuley, the reformed river pirate, who lately died at his mission post in New York, had one or two down-falls after he began a better life, and it was not until he quit tobacco that he could keep his temperance pledge."

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