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and sent at one time, FIFTEEN DOLLARS. RENEWALS should be sent by Money Order, Reg istered Letter or l'ostal Note.

It is hardly possible that stock has not suffered severely east of the mountains this winter, but it seems, as far as reliable news can be had, that the loss is much less than has been reported. If half the stock is left alive stock men are in great good fortune.

THE ICE blockade on the O. R. &. N. Co.'s track above the Cascades lasted was passed before trains could ge through. Wa cannot expect any great snow to fall, with wind to drift it, without filling up the cuts and making that road impassable for many miles. There have been about three seasons in the pust thirty when delays could not have been avoided if a road had been constructed.

This winter is certain to justify all we have ever said in favor of raising cattle and producing excellent meats for city markets. After this storm all the beef THE PACIFIC STATES AT NEW OBLEANS and mutton will be very poor unless kept up and cared for and to-day good meat will bring an extra price. All those who can turn off beeves or choice mutton sheep will be very richly rewarded. The fact is more and certain that grass is to be the profitable crop in the near future and for all time afterwards, in this valley. The man who follows mixed farming and is careful to "mix" in good beeve steers as a regular thing, will find his account in so doing. Choice mutton sheep will also pay well. We mean that the regular mutton breeds will be appointed as better meat than counties produce 10,000 tons a year, storm is now with us, and the wide giving two good coats, and you will have ordinary common grades and the men The newly started silk industry has an northwest is wrapped in winter's deadly a fence as enduring as a life time. who have enterprise enough to possess them will get prices to compensate them for their trouble.

DURING THE LATE SNOW STORM the birds of the forest suffered and many died, but they who became domesticated around the homes of farms generally found food given to them and wintered nicely. The little fellows became quite tame and domesticated in some instances. Out in the hills and on the Santiam bottom the little "Bob White" quails grew very tame. The Mongolian pheasants, brought from China, were also said to be very easily tamed and She, too, makes a fair display of her very hardy. Some quails were found dead but those Asiatic game birds wintered in lively shape. Here in town mines. we had birds to feed around every house and most people took pleasure in caring ooo cattle in Umatilla county, had died, for them. The voracious Blue Jays is incorrect. The loss of stock is not as and most people took pleasure in caring were selfishly driving others away and great as was feared.

trying to monopolize everything in there own craws. The little snow birds were too lively for them and managed to pick up crumbs and dodge away before the clumsy Blue Jays could help themselves. Selfish birds, like selfish humans, are very disagreeable creatures.

IF ANY ONE had foretold that the rail-would have been received with many century. All over the world, wherever doubts, but we have had a taste of civilized humanity uses the products of genuine winter and the banks of the "the plow, the loom and the anvil," stag-Columbia through the mountains have nation is the rule and depression in been impassable. In all the surmises business prevails. The world seems concerning possibilities we have never partially paralized in all the functions of had it suggested that such a contingency production, transportation and traffic. was likely, but now that the things have Of course there is no diminution of occurred we recognize that any snow actual wealth. Property and money accompanied by wind will have the exist, manking wear clothing and eat effect to fill up the cuts and overwhelm food. Yet depression resulting from the road all along the mountain side, overproduction, is the universal rule from Rooster Rock to the Dalles. We are It is possible that with the worlds, not nearly so sure of maintaining winter markets heavily overstocked with all communication with Eastern Oregon as staples, and with prices reduced, on an we thought we were.

> nips suit their fancy and they thrive prehensions. well on them. The other day we took a nips yielded. He soon uncovered a our credit, we commenced to bankrupt couple of bushels and the sheep throve But there is now no foreign export sur depth of snow and ice, but that it could we have exported corn, wheat, cotton, be done showed how easy it is to make dairy products, meats and other articles. such roots available for the use of stock. winter.

THROUGH THE Yakima county and in the Big Bend of the Columbia, and all north of Snake river, the severity of where in a ravine near Blalock the bones and died in great numbers. This snow living averages lower in America than in seems to have extended through all the Great Britain. exactly three weeks, or at least that time region in Oregon and Washington east the Cascades and it is very possible While many persons will lose beavily next season.

The S. F. Chronicle gives corre-State excels greatly. The exhibit inevery few weeks so as to maintain its tice economy. freshness. Besides fruits in great variety interesting exhibit. The Grangers of mantle-deadly to stock upon the east-California have gathered many valuable ern plains and hills. The present Central Pacific railroad. The correspondence concludes as follows:

The Oregon exhibit is unassuming and yet a good one. It is almost entirely agricultural, and is confined to staples and orchard products. Nevada makes a magnificent display of rare minerals, precious ores and mining views, and will stake her agricultural reputation on a consignment of sagebrush potatoes that is expected next week. Next to Colorado, New Mexico makes the greatest pretensions. Arizona has a secluded corner back of the California location. mining resources, with ore and rock from the Tombstone, Silver King and Copper Queen, and other celebrated

The report that 700 out of a band of

We have commenced a new year under circumstances somewhat discouraging. During a hundred years since our grandfathers were on the busy stage of action and before they could have handled the lever that moves the world, breadstuffs have not been as low road up the Columbia would be blocked as now. There is such an abundant for three weeks and a train would be supply of staple products of agriculture locality remote and hardly accessible, it lower than any time during the past average, considerabely below ordinary rates, people are not able to purchase THE WAY to care for sheep in the and use what they need. So we have winter is to have plenty of roots for them underconsumption as well as overpro to eat. They dont care for dry hay and duction, a strange and indefinable are dainty about eating grain, but tur- state of affairs beyond ordinary com-

There were great financial crisis in sleigh ride out in the hills and nearly 1837, 1857, and 1873 that stand as prefive miles away we passed the house of cedents in business annals. In all these Mr. R. C. Halley. The snow and ice anticedent times of financial panic our covered the ground a foot or two feet country has been for many years importdeep, and very solid, but our friend ing vastly more goods from abroad than Robert was out in the garden digging we exported our products. We were away the snow down to his turnips and literally running behind fifty to a hunthe sheep were to be let into cat them. dred million a year, and when we had, He said it was wonderful how the tur- like any individual customer, exhausted on them, frozen as they were. It was plus against us. We have not imported the pursuit of turnips among difficulties within many million, even hundreds of when they had to be dug through such millions, as many goods from abroad as

At one time we owed abroad a thou-Every farmer with an acre of turnips is sand million of dollars and paid large well armed against some of the perils of interest. We have reduced this foreign debt the nation owed, and if the United States now owes, it is not over half what it was twenty years ago, and the debt is held chiefly by our own citizens at a lower rate of interest than any winter is felt more acutaly than in nation ever barrowed. This would seem Middle and Southern Oregon. Cattle, like wonderful prosperity and so it has with their split hoofs, are unable to paw been. Working men and women of away the snow as sheep and horses can America earn wages one and a half to and suffer great loss. We have seen over three times greater than the highest paid in Great Britain, and England pays of hundreds of sheep are actually piled higher wages than other European up. The poor creatures huddled together countries. At the same time the cost of

We have been wonderfully prospered, as a nation, and are now caught by the that two-thirds of all stock there has same whirlwind that affects other perished. There will be many poor men nations. The world cannot afford to to begin life anew. The ten millions of pay a fair price for our breadstuffs. Our pounds of wool expected will be sadly cotton and woolen mills are running on lessened in bulk and beef cattle will be short time, and iron works are shut scarce for actual home consumption. down or partially working. We stand quite appalled at the catastrophe that the railroads will also be great lossers has seized the world and ask for one and as there will be so much less wool and another high authority in finance: what stock for them to transport to market is the cause? and no one can intelligently

Of course, such a state of things must mend. The economical family corrects troubles of finance by contracting exspondence relating to the exhibit made penses. That is what we are doing as a meats will certainly be high and by California at the World's Fair at New nation, and we certainly must soon see Orleans. The principal interest attaches the result of the curtailment of outlay to fruits and vegetables, in which that that has taken place. We shall soon restore the normal condition of things cludes a 222 pound squash from Sonoma, and find healthy conditions bring us The exhibit of finits is very remarkable a sound system again. All that can and effort will be made to replenish it be done is to exercise patience and prac-

But the world suffers also from the and of remarkable size, they had tons of terrible and great unforeseen. Great you can live to test it, dip the butt end honey, in the comb and extracted. The earthquakes have taken place and declaim is made that five southern stroyed lives and property. A terrible articles, so have the officials of the winter sends death and desolation through the great stock ranges and destroys millions of hard earned wealth. It is thus we begin the new year, with apprehension and great loss.

The present crisis is formidable and calculated to make many weak who were supposed to be strong.

# FENCE AND NO FENCE.

shall prevent free pasturage. If any he succeeds. man can turn out stock on the range fallow it.

going at large but permits cattle and Mr. Gaines has invented another horses. It is true the later can be easier | machine that he owns personally. He fenced against but to fence at all is has been offered \$15,000 a year and a what the advocate of a no fence law royalty of \$100 for each machine built objects to. In any case the farmer on his patent, which he refused. must fence in some portion of his It was a singular coincidence that Mr. premises and no doubt he would fence Jory should call exactly at the time we in a pasture and leave his plow land were writing the above item. open. Take any view we please and difficulties appear.

One matter that deserves consideration is what constitutes a legal fence. It is not so difficult to build fences as it is to build "legal" fences, to exclude all stock. The great majority of animals can be kept in or out with a fence that that is easily constructed, but there are a few that can throw down ordinary fences and will do so. Would it not be well to pronounce a three strand wire fence, four feet or three and a half high, a legal fence and let the owners of breachy stock keep them up or send them elsewhere? A three strand wire fence, with posts twenty-five feet apart, and a heavy furrow plowed from each way to throw up a ridge that will attract notice of animals, ought to be a legal fence. It would turn large animals and small ones can be kept up or herded. The material for this fence will be 1000 pounds wire at 7 cents, \$70. Number of hauling of posts and wire from river or railroad to the farm can be managed at small expense and a mile of fence can be made by two men in a very short time. There are few animals that will

barbed wire. another ten inches above that, another and cedar posts, which last can be bought important facts concerning added.

We were surprised recently, when traveling East to find in New York State that barbed wire was replacing old time fences. We supposed barbed wire was in use only in new and treeless regions far West, but wire fencing is the fence for all farming of the future and will soon begin to take the place of the old worm fencing in Western Oregon, as elsewhere. It can be used cheaper than we can build an eight rail fence and stake and rider it. The cost of wire has materially cheapened of late with the reduction in price of all iron. Where timber is abundant to place a post every ten feet and cap with a pole reaching across several posts, makes a fence that only needs four strands of wire to make it four and a half feet high and just what every farmer needs.

To make a fir post last longer than in a mixture of linseed oil and powdered charcoal dust, or put it on with a brush,

# ANOTHES CLAIM

Californians have a faculty for claiming everything as to the manner born. A recent instance meets our eye in taking up an October number of a California journal where a writer gives an enthusiastic account of the success the Gaine's Combined Header and Thresher, which it says is the invention of S. L. Gaines of Stockton. Now S. L. Gaines is an Oregonian, who went to The question of legislating for or California with a machine invented by a against fences is already argued in the Mr. Parrish and built here in Salem. papers in view of the near approach of The machine had many good points \$100 Will Buy what Cost the legislative session. It is a matter and may possibly be perfected so as to do of great importance and not easily de- good work, but there are many obstacles cided. In some parts of the country to be overcome. Sam Gaines was in where timber is very scarce and fences business at Gervais and failed. He was cost dear, it may be that the tax on far- agent for the FARMER there. He was mers is too great to be borne. It is es not the inventor but is a pushing and quire. timated that to make and repair fences hard working man and we hope he may

costs more than any other item of farm succeed with the combined header and expenses. If that inland region is to be thresher and be able to pay up all his left open it will be necessary that a law little obligations, as no doubt he will if

Just after we had written the above then it will be no advantage to the far- Mr. Charles Jory happened in on busimer to be exempt from building fences, ness and mentioned that he was going When we take all points into consider- soon to leave Oregon and remove to ation it will appear very difficult to Stockton, Cal., where he was offered a decide whether the advantage of any position in the factory of Mr. Gaines, so legislation equal the disadvantages that we read him our item and learn from him futher that the machine owned by The present law for some eastern Parrish & Gaines, was sold to other ounties restrains hogs and sheep from parties who own the patent right, and

#### WHAT WILL THE EFFECT BE.

If this winter proves as serious in loss as we have reason to expect, there will be only a small proportion of all the stock left to people the vast pastures of the Inland Empire. Bunchgrass will have a chance to grow and regain much of its pristine vigor before stock can increase or by any means be placed again on those ranges. We read that out of a band of seven hundred cattle in Umatilla county kept in Umatilla county five hundred head died a week or more ago. It is hardly possible that shee,p horses and cattle without food could endure the terrible severity of last month. It is supposed that sheep managed to exist through the severe weather in some localities, such as bald hill points that the snow blows off from. We hear that parties from the country who have stock in Wasco county, chiefly horses, kept posts 250 to the mile, worth \$30, making everything. This is a bleak and especialnear the Columbia river, have lost nearly cost of material \$100 a mile. The ly severe country in winter, much worse than it is further south.

### New Years Number.

The Daily Oregonian for January 1, try to get through or over barbed wire, contains an immense amount of facts, Plowing a heavy furrow and back consisting of a review of all the business fucrowing, makes a ridge or embankment of the Columbia river for 1884. It gives to line with the posts and when they tables of the shipping and exporting of get used to it stock will know better grain, and of all other important prothan to mutilate themselves against the duets. Our country has become important in its commerce so that it is Place another wire at the bottom, not important to know what is transacted to cost over \$20 a mile and you have a and this number of that paper gives fence that will turn sheep or hogs, say a every important fact that is worth wire eight inches from the ground, and narration. No doubt many persons would like to send to their friends in the old States and other countries the inforone foot above and a fourth eighteen mation this New Years number furnishes, inches higher and your fence is four more especially because it also contains feet high and ought to turn any kind of a full review of the whole country by stock. The material for this fence can be the best of japanned barbed wire Columbia, Idaho and Washington. All for ten cents each where they grow, and manufactures and physical character of cost of transportation to nearest town the entire Pacific Northwest are given in the sixteen pages of this number. By enclosing a dime, or ten cents in

postal stamps, to the Oregonian, Portland, Or., with the address of the party and through much of New England to receive it, a copy will be sent by mail to that address.

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