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All who are in arrearage and will send us amount due at \$2.00 per year up to January 1, 1887, and then add \$1.50 additional for the year 1887.

If subscription is paid to January 1, or after, you can avail yourself of this offer by sending us \$1.50 and we will give a full years credit.

This offer expires January 1st, and after that date the regular price will be \$2.00 per year as heretofore.

Remit by Postal Note or by Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Express Money Order. We mean just what we say and will do it. Don't wait but act at once.

Wheat bears an enhanced price. This is welcome news to all our readers.

The steamboats are now enabled to navigate the Willamette without danger, as the late rains have swollen the river considerably.

Will all our readers who are in arrearage for subscription to this paper please respond before January 1st? See our extraordinary offer made elsewhere. It brings the FARMER within the reach of all.

In his address to the Portland Board of trade, Senator Dolph showed his appreciation of the great value of river improvements; that making navigation possible to the upper waters will bring a great trade to Portland.

A PATRON OF HUSBANDRY, of Marion county, was lately at the Linn County Council of the Order, and was astonished to see three hundred good grangers assemble there.

AN EVIDENCE of the mild autumn weather was furnished the other day at Portland, where we saw a limb of raspberries, many of which were ripe.

SALEM HAS a beautiful bridge that is free to all, and makes Folk county a nearer neighbor than ever. There is now no tax on being neighborly, and the old steam ferry has pulled down its wire rope and hauled off—a thing of the past.

A VARIETY TO CHOOSE FROM. Our Pacific Northwest contains the greatest variety of climate known to any region of the same extent. The person who comes here to settle certainly has a great variety to choose from, and can locate in almost any temperature and conditions he prefers...

California has many attractions and advantages, but our Northern Pacific region, tributary to the Great River of the West, embracing a great scope of territory five hundred miles from the ocean east to the Rocky range...

The shore line of Oregon and Washington has Puget Sound, the Mediterranean of the Pacific, and with Gray's Harbor and Shoal Water Bay and its share in the Columbia, our northern neighbor has a wealth of commercial advantages...

Western Oregon has the garden spots of the Pacific in its valleys, that reach from the Columbia south to the Siakiyoo range that divides from California. The immense barrier that rises on the east of these valleys holds back the ocean temperature, and its winds and rains...

Here the immigrant who seeks a new home has opportunity to choose from the sunny homes of Southern Oregon, the ocean-tempered hills and vales of the beautiful Willamette, or the vine-tangled bottoms and timbered uplands of Western Washington.

Ascending the Columbia or crossing the rocky and mountain barrier that holds back Arcturus at one season and turns away the fervor of the Summer Solstice to let the ocean fan us with moist gales...

From Mr. Buick, lately returned from his long journey towards the East and Middle-West as Superintendent and Manager of the Exhibit Car, we learn that he expects a great immigration another year as a consequence of this exhibit.

OPENING OUR WATER-WAYS.

The FARMER was the first journal west of the Cascades—and for a time the only one—to advocate the removal or overcoming of obstructions in the Upper Columbia. Of late, Portland appreciates the fact that her future is more dependent on making the upper waters navigable than on defeating the commercial aspirations of the Sound country.

and even Idaho. Wheat and heavy products will follow water-courses, always, in preference to making expensive land journeys.

To make the Columbia and Snake rivers navigable is to open up a region of fertility and extent equal to that already developed by transportation, for when the rivers are free and open, branch railroads will extend from it to every fertile district within easy reach...

The O. R. & N. Co. has accepted as its mission to develop all the Upper Country and bring its products to market. Some wiseacre says that we may expect this company will make intense opposition to the improvement of the river and removal of obstructions. A broader view of this matter shows that this corporation is directly interested in urging on such work.

Opening these rivers will be a great benefit to the Pacific Northwest, will increase population by increasing available territory, and while there will be cities on the Sound and a large con course there, the making of the upper waters navigable will bring on their flow nearly all the surplus products of that region.

The near approach of the legislative session is calling out opposition to the contract system of employing convict labor, as it is claimed that it destroys thriving industries. It is asserted that the manufacture of stoves by such labor broke up a manufacturer at Milwaukee...

EMPLOYING CONVICT LABOR.

This is, in brief, the objection, but we have always felt that the State should utilize the labor of convicts to pay their expenses; and it must be an advantage to these men to have some good trade that they can follow when their terms expire.

But, the question is, may it not be possible for convicts to learn trades that will not interfere with existing enterprises? We believe it is so, and would urge that, as a measure in favor of the early development of home-industries, the State shall use its convict labor for this purpose.

For instance, tanning can be carried on, as it was before, and leather made. We ship our hides to California, and buy back harness and boots and shoes. Let the State manufacture leather and sell to harness-makers, and also manufacture boots and shoes.

existing industry. Also manufacture wagons and agricultural machinery; start iron works; do something that ordinary capital and labor is afraid to undertake, and push it to success. That will be doing a great good and aid the development of home resources amazingly.

This scheme is not chimerical or wanting in solid sense. It is eminently practical, and will lead to the establishing of home manufactures on a large scale, if properly carried out. The State languishes for want of prosperity in home enterprises.

A MATTER OF CHURCH AND STATE.

The plan of placing the different Indian agencies under the charge of various religious denominations, or churches, does not always work without friction it seems. At present the Catholics have control of Umatilla reservation and at their suggestion the President appointed B. Coffey as agent.

Quite recently, without any charge of sinning against the church, or of any summons to them to defend themselves, Archbishop Gross issued an edict placing both Coffey and his daughter under the ban of the church and excommunicating them from its communion.

We know from the Inspectors themselves that all three fully sustain Mr. Coffey and as fully denounce Conrady, the priest. They have in their hands sworn affidavits to prove that this "Father Conrady" has said: "Damn the Indians! I wish the black-pox would come and carry them all off."

This act of Archbishop Gross carries us back to the "dark ages" in Europe, and is unworthy of this enlightened age and free soil. If he has been misled he should retract. In this age the church should stand forth, inviting the clear light of day and deserve the respect and confidence of all men.

Something New Under the Sun.

Mr. Abell, whose name has become a household word, is now taking pictures by a new process. These pictures are called "bromides," and are perfection of the art. Mr. Abell has large, commodious rooms at 29 Washington street, Labbe block, Portland, and which are easily reached by elevator.

If you intend to take up our offer, see head of editorial page, do so at once, as we shall discontinue the offer January 1st. This is positive.

MOUNTAIN SUN AND VALLEY FOG.

If we could stand on any point of the surrounding foothills that gives a view of the whole valley, we should look down from warm and sunny heights on a sea of mist and fog lying like great snowy fleeces. Mr. H. W. Pallies a while ago took up a claim in the hills, about three or four miles above Mehama, and not over thirty miles from Salem.

Staver & Walker's Magnificent Display.

We are pleased to call the attention of our readers this week to the advertisement of Messrs. Staver & Walker, which comprises all implements that are in demand at this season of the year.

Messrs. Staver & Walker have built up a very large trade—reaching all parts of Oregon, Washington Ter., Idaho and northern California.

Their line of goods comprises the best implements and vehicles of their class to be had in the United States. All machinery handled by them has been specially built for this trade—is strongly and durably made—well finished and painted, and guaranteed equal or superior to any of its class made in the United States.

Among the various articles worthy of special mention is their celebrated Bissel Chilled Plows, which are guaranteed superior in point of construction, finish and work to any other chilled plow in the world.

Another new implement is the Hoosier Runner Press Drill, which is a novelty in its way, and is far ahead of all previous efforts in the line of seeding machinery, it having been demonstrated by careful practical tests that the probabilities of the germination of seed wheat are greatly increased by packing the earth on the seed at time of drilling, and that, in consequence, the quantity of seed can safely be reduced one-half or one-third of the amount usually sown.

With the growth of our stock interests there has arisen a demand for a Fodder Cutter, it having been demonstrated that the saving by cutting of hay is no less than 30 per cent, or nearly one ton in every three.

All parties interested in this class of machinery will do well to write Staver & Walker for special catalogue of the Ross Cutters, which give full information on the subject.

Staver & Walker have just added to their line a full line of Bob Sleighs, which have been specially built for this trade of the best oak, with 2 by 3 1/2 bent runners. The shoes are of cast iron with the bolt holes tapering outwards.

It is a matter of satisfaction to note the development of our country as evinced by the increased business of this firm, and they are deserving of much credit for their efforts in furnishing the farmers the best and latest improved machinery for the seeding and harvesting of their crops.

It is to their credit to say that they never yet sued any farmer who showed a desire to meet his honest debts, but on the contrary have always shown the utmost consideration and courtesy towards those who from unfortunate circumstances were unable to meet their obligations when due.

All farmers will find it to their advantage to patronize this firm, as they will be assured of the best machinery of its class to be had, also of courteous and honorable treatment and a just consideration of their necessities.

Judge Shattuck has decided that the management of the Oregon Iron Works is vested in the S. G. Reed party.