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Clements & Wilson. Court and Cottonwood

East Oregonian

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1901.

DAILY, WEEKLY AND SEMI-WEEKLY

—BY THE—

East Oregonian Publishing Company,

—AT—

PENDLETON, - - - OREGON.

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Local notices, ten cents per line, each insertion.

The Johnstown Democrat, which is truly democratic, calls attention to the fact that there are 73,000,000 acres of land in the Philippines, only 5,000,000 of which are under private ownership. The friars own nearly one-fifth of all held under private title. The fact that there are 68,000,000 of free acres gives encouragement to those carrying on the war of subjugation, as when it is over these rich acres can be divided among those who have not been deadheads in the great national enterprise, for which Uncle Sam has put up several hundred millions of dollars.

One of Oregon's leading lawyers and best citizens lies on his death bed in Portland, while his hosts of friends and admirers all over the state, particularly in this city and county where he made his home for years, hope against hope for his recovery. L. B. Cox is a man who had endeared himself to many by his sterling qualities and abilities and one in whom the people of the state have the greatest confidence as a man and a lawyer. It is sincerely hoped that he will recover, but advices from his bedside say the end is only a few days away at most. His death will afflict a great loss upon the state, as well as remove from the profession of the law one of its ablest and cleanest members.

The effort to give the Pendleton academy more commodious buildings and grounds and better school equipment deserves every encouragement. The school has already proven its worth to Pendleton. It is self-maintaining, but it needs new buildings, which will afford more room, and the paraphernalia of an up to date school. The present management of the school is excellent and is capable of self-improvement. A considerable amount of money can be secured from outside of Umatilla county for the needs of the academy, if Pendleton will contribute a fund which will show a lively home interest in the matter. We should help ourselves in order that others may be encouraged to help us. A fund of $20,000 should be raised in all, and if Pendleton will contribute $5000 of this the balance will be forthcoming. Pendleton people will probably be asked to subscribe to a $5000 fund with the understanding that $20,000 in all will be subscribed or the Pendleton subscriptions will be forfeited. This would be an excellent investment for Pendleton. It would pay in all the years to come. Good schools do much to make a good town.

February 22 next—Washington's birthday—is the time set for a meeting in Philadelphia which will have for its object the launching of a movement for the "reorganization of the democratic party" and the inflation of a boom for David Bennett Hill of New York for president in 1904. Among those who are said to be backing the proposed meeting are Grover Cleveland, William F. Harrity, ex-Secretary Whitney and a score of others who did everything in their power to defeat and wreck the democratic organization in 1896 and 1900. The democratic party, as it was led during the past eight years, comes nearer representing the wishes of the masses of democratic voters than is possible with the "old crowd" at the helm, who at best cannot make it more than an imitation republican party with the aims of that organization under the leadership of Hanna, et al. If the democratic party is not to continue its fight for the masses against the classes then it had better be interred for all time to come. With reorganization, such as the men named would give it, the future would promise nothing to real democracy while the grip of Privilege would tighten around the throats of men who struggle for existence under even present conditions. Such reorganization as is proposed signifies nothing and if accomplished the democratic party would not have half of the strength before the people as was shown in the recent campaign.

The ship subsidy bill is still being pushed in congress. A prize of $200,000,000 of public money is difficult to surrender, so its promoters are straining every nerve and brain cell in their effort to make it law of the land, by which certain interests are to receive something like $9,000,000 a year for thirty years in subsidies. This proposition of taking a vast amount from the public treasury and turning it over to men already enormously rich has the endorsement of the leaders of the republican party in congress, who are held to its support through the influence of Senator Hanna and the McKinley administration. It is admitted on all sides that the subsidy bill is a graft pure and simple, but this does not seem to lessen the enthusiasm of republican support, and the bill may become a law.

THE HEAVENS IN FEBRUARY.

The chief event of last month was one relating to one of our nearest neighbors in space, and yet most inconspicuous to the eye—the close approach of the asteroid Eros to the earth. Another of our celestial associates plays the leading part in this month's drama, but the spectacle which he offers is far more brilliant, though less unusual, for the actor is the warlike planet Mars.

His opposition, which occurs on the 21st, affords the best chance of the year to observe him; but one which must nevertheless be counted unfavorable when compared with those of other years. The reason for this is that at the present time he is in that part of his orbit which is farthest from the sun, so that his distance from that body is nearly 155 million miles, though on the average it is 141½ million. The earth is at the same time about 92 million miles from the sun, so that Mars is no less than 63 million miles away from us. When, on the other hand, an opposition occurs when Mars is nearest the sun, his distance from it is but a little over 128 million miles, and that of the earth (whose orbit is a little farther from the sun on this side) is over 93 million, so that the gap intervening between the two planets is but 35 million miles across.

* * *

It is, therefore, easy to see why Mars is much more favorably placed for observation at such an opposition than at the present one. He appears nearly twice as large with the same telescopic power, and in consequence much more detail can be made out on his disk. To the naked eye the disparity is even more striking, for the amount of light that Mars sends us varies as his apparent area, and when he is nearest the sun he is moreover most brightly illuminated by it. The combined effect of these two causes is that at his most favorable opposition he is nearly five times as bright as at the least favorable, being almost equal to Jupiter in the former case, and, by no means, rivaling Sirius in the latter.

At conjunction, when Mars and the earth are on opposite sides of the sun, he is only about 1-12 as bright as at the worst opposition, and appears about equal to the pole star.

Oppositions of Mars occur at intervals of a little more than two years. This interval is longer than in the case of the more remote planets, since Mars moves faster and, therefore, it takes the earth longer to overtake him. The favorable oppositions occur at intervals of 15 or 17 years. The last one was in 1892, and the next will occur in 1909.

* * *

On this present occasion things are about as bad as possible, for Mars reaches his greatest distance from the sun on the 24th, only three days after opposition. Nevertheless he will be, in all probability assiduously observed in the hope that something may be seen which will add to our knowledge of his surface.

The possessor of a small telescope can reasonably hope to see the dark greenish markings which are usually supposed to be oceans, and the white spots at the poles, which, since they decrease in size during the summer of the hemisphere in which they lie, and regain their full dimensions during the winter, are supposed to be ice-caps. By watching the planet for a couple of hours the motion of the surface markings across the disk caused by its rotation can be clearly seen. The two satellites, which are the smallest bodies in the solar system, can only be seen with a large telescope, and the same statement holds true with even greater force with regard to the much-discussed canals, some theories of whose nature we hope to consider next month.

* * *

The southern skies present a magnificent spectacle at our chosen hour of observation, 9 p. m., on February 15.

Right overhead, and a little west of the zenith, is Capella, which forms an irregular pentagon with the other principal stars of Auriga. Below and to the right is Taurus, marked by Aldebaran and the Pleiades. Orion is farther down on the left and the small constellations of Lepus and Columba are between it and the horizon.

Beginning again high up, but farther to the left, we first reach Castor and Pollux, then Proyon, on a level with Orion, and lower down the incomparable Sirius. Below Sirius, to the right, is an irregular cross of bright stars which marks the hindquarters of Canis Major, and about as far again in the same line, and close to the horizon, is the star Zeta Puppis, which Sir Norman Lockyer believes to be much hotter than any other whose spectrum has been examined.

Those who live south of the latitude of Washington may, if the air is clear, catch a glimpse low down on the horizon, under Sirius, of the brilliant Canous, which stands second to it in brightness among the fixed stars, but it is so far south that it never rises above the horizon of New York. The most conspicuous constellations in the western sky are Perseus and Cassiopeia in the Milky Way, Aries and Andromeda below them, and Cetus in the southwest. In the east Leo is almost half way up the sky, bearing Mars with him. Ursa Major is conspicuous between Leo and the pole, and below the Lion the serpent Hydra stretches its ungainly length along the southern sky.

* * *

Mercury is evening star for the whole of the month. He is best placed for observation on the 19th, when he is in his greatest eastern elongation, and sets nearly two hours later than the sun. He is unusually bright, and the present opportunity for seeing him in the evening is the best of the year. Venus is morning star in Sagittarius and Capricornus. She rises little more than an hour before the sun, and is becoming inconspicuous. Mars comes to opposition on the 21st, as has been already described, and is visible all night. Jupiter, Saturn, and Uranus are all morning stars. In the middle of the month they rise 3½, 3, and 4½ hours respectively before sunrise. Neptune is in Taurus, near the border of Gemini.

* * *

Full moon occurs on the forenoon of the 3d, last quarter near noon on the 11th, new moon on the night of the 18th, and first quarter on the afternoon of the 25th. The moon is farthest from the earth on the 8th and nearest on the 20th. She passes Mars on the afternoon of the 5th, Neptune near noon on the 13th, Jupiter on the night of the 14th, Saturn the next afternoon, Venus on the afternoon of the 17th, Mercury on the morning of the 20th, and Neptune on the night of the 26th.—Henry Norris Russell in Scientific American.

No External Symptoms.

The blood may be in bad condition, yet with no external signs, no skin eruption or sores to indicate it. The symptoms in such cases being a variable appetite, poor digestion, an indescribable weakness and nervousness, loss of flesh and a general run-down condition of the system—clearly showing the blood has lost its nutritive qualities, has become thin and watery. It is in just such cases that S. S. S. has done some of its quickest and most effective work by building up the blood and supplying the elements lacking to make it strong and vigorous.

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Flour exchanged for wheat.
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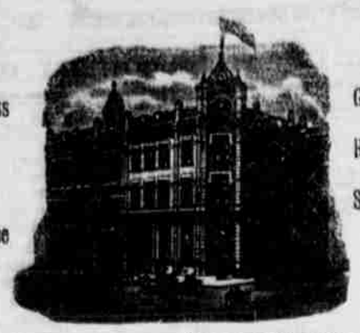

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*8.30 a. m.	Roseburg Passenger, via Woodburn for Mount Angel, Silverton, West Scio, Brownsville, Natron and Springfield.....	*7.15 p. m.
†7.30 a. m.	Corvallis Passenger.....	†5.50 p. m.
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3 times....20c	3 times....30c	3 times....50c	3 times....65c	3 times....80c	3 times....90c
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Dated February 5, 1901.

J. M. HEATHMAN, City Marshal.

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