

The Democratic News.

SATURDAY MORNING, OCT. 22, 1870.

Our Agricultural Interests.

It is not the purpose of this article to divulge "what I know about farming," as H. G. would have it, though the spreading of all the information in our immediate possession on that subject before the public would not require an exorbitant amount of space, but we wish to throw out a few superficial ideas, merely, on the subject, and will leave it to the future to decide whether or no they are practically sound.

Up to the present period, there has been no occasion for making any strain upon the agricultural capacities of Southern Oregon. Products, more than were necessary for the subsistence of our hitherto limited population, have never failed to reward the almost primitive system of tillage still, with few exceptions, in vogue. Our most extensive farmers have been, for many years in succession, engaged in exacting bounteous returns from the soil without appealing to any scientific processes by which its extraordinary fertility might be kept up. But this is not the hobby we started out to bestride.

There is an unprecedented rush made just now to take up vacant tracts of land, and we wish to show how greatly our capacities, as a producing section of the country, can be enlarged. One of the best recognized expedients for making the earth, not only to bloom, but to bear fruits for the maintenance of man, is that of irrigation; but on what a limited scale have been the experiments of this character resorted to in the much favored locality of Rogue River Valley! Magnificent mountain streamlets are permitted to leap down from their hidden glacial sources and find their way uninterrupted to the ocean, where prudence and enterprise would dictate that they be controlled by artificial means and made to "scatter plenty o'er a smiling land." Suppose that Butte creek—a stream ever suggestive of hallowed reminiscences and adhering qualities—were tapped by an agricultural duct and the water carried around the foot of the mountain as far as, and in the direction of, Phoenix, and from there brought around on the foot hills to Jacksonville and Willow Springs; does anyone doubt such an achievement would be alike grand, practical and profitable? That would be "swinging around the circle" to some purpose. Every acre of ground covered by a water privilege of this character would be materially enhanced in value, and the desert country east of Bear creek would become suited to the accommodation of many hundreds of additional settlers.

The accomplishment of such an enterprise is, most likely, too remote to justify a minute specification of the multiplied advantages that would indisputably follow. In the meantime, we expect to see our farmers keep on from year to year the "even tenor of their way"—raising cereals at a disadvantage and depending on other people for their vegetables—drawing water in scant quantities by hand for their stock, and suffering their orchards to become stunted and unproductive from drouth—doing without valuable meadows and finding it unprofitable to engage in dairy pursuits for the want of them—their wells going dry during exceptionally dry seasons, and every thing presenting the appearance of being parched and dried up, preparatory to being blown away where land should be perennially blessed with verdure—these are the things, we say, we are most likely to continue witnessing; but when the "iron horse" gets to making his significant visits to the valley and bears away with lightning speed its surplus products to feed citizens of all climes, we'll see a revolution here. The old foggy rule of getting along any way just so you hold on to existence, will be upset; and then will be the time for us to witness the completion of our canal. Then, in language almost similar to that used by Henry Ward Beecher on an educational occasion, the cry will be: "we must irrigate, we must irrigate, or we perish!"

POLITICAL PARTIALITY.—The Republican organs have a great deal to say about the extreme party spirit exhibited by the Democrats of the Legislature in favoring, with their votes, Democratic contestants. But how about the Republicans who voted solid every time for the Republican contestant? Was there no extreme partisanship on their side? All they lacked of doing a one-sided business, and giving legal sanction to the palpable frauds that were perpetrated last June, was a working majority. It always did make considerable difference whose ox was gored.

The News, with this number, has had an existence of just one year and a half. Its publication was begun at a time of great financial depression and circumstances have not changed materially since. The most economical and attentive management of its business affairs has barely sufficed to keep the paper on its legs up to the present date. This ought not to be the case in a Democratic section of the country like Southern Oregon, but it, nevertheless, is. One impediment to success that has been in the way nearly ever since the present proprietor obtained the office, will be removed to-day. The press and material upon which the News is printed, as is well known, have been matter for litigation for a number of years. For the last year, an execution has been suspended over our heads, and it is a relief, at last, to know that a conclusive settlement of the ownership will now be given to some one at the hands of the Sheriff. The Democratic News will be sold, to-day, to the highest bidder for cash, by the functionary to whom we have alluded, and anyone ambitious of trying the vexations, and imaginary pleasures of newspaper life will have an opportunity for making a small investment. It's a very simple business, to run a newspaper. The main requisite is to be able to puff everybody and everything that is in need of public attention. This must be done gratuitously, too. It is especially essential that a party organ should be very active about election time. Then is the time for the publisher, if he is so organized that he can thrive on dissimulated friendship, to "fare sumptuously" and luxuriantly every day. As to him expecting any remuneration for the printing of tickets, publishing notices, etc., he is sublimely foolish for worrying his cranium in the least about it. O, it's delightful, running a party organ!

During the brief existence of the News it has labored, we think honestly, to build up and strengthen the party whose principles it espouses. With such ends in view, we have not been sparing on the errors of individuals merely because they were Democrats, nor have we failed to condemn, in the party, things that we could not endorse because the balance of the Democratic press sanctioned them. We have tried to be as independent in the expression of our political views as the legal enactments of the State of Oregon and the grace of King Hiram would admit of. In our general allusions and occasional administration of personal censure, it would seem no more than possible that we have offended and, perhaps, done injustice to some whose feelings we would be loth to wound. It is, to a certain extent, the duty of an editor to act the part of a conservator of public interests, morals and proprieties, and his edicts are often hastily written. He is sometimes called on to say things at the expense of friendships he would dislike to give up. These are considerations that go to make up the unenviable part of a newspaper life. A writer who is too timid to slash away at the evil propensities and improprieties of people once and awhile,—albeit he does excite the imprecations of a few of the knowing ones, who cannot be doctrinated out of the belief that the moral, social and political universes rest mainly upon their shoulders,—is out of his place, and has entirely missed his sphere, in a newspaper office. For any un-deserved wrong we have done a single individual through these columns, we make this our general apology; and for those little rubs that were merited, we shall continue to feel delighted.

As an advocate of the material interests of Southern Oregon, we think it not undue flattery to say that the News has been active and influential. We profess to have been zealous in the work of fostering and encouraging whatever has had a tendency in our opinion to enhance the general prosperity of the section with which we are identified. With better support and encouragement we might possibly have done more. One thing wants to be overcome, though, before Southern Oregon can amount to much, and that is the lethargy of her people. We are on the eve of great changes as a State, and in order that this section may keep pace with other districts, we must wake up. A principal indication of the life and energy of a community is usually to be found in the appearance of and aid accorded a local paper; and it is hardly necessary to say that neither of the Jacksonville papers have shown indications of being in financial clover for, lo, these many years. We say this as much for the benefit of the community as for those engaged in the newspaper business.

It depends upon how the sale goes, to-day, whether our present relations with the people of Southern Oregon are longer continued or not. We do not strenuously crave the privilege of striving to make a party organ stick where the caprices of individuals are to be consulted in preference to the public good. The important interests of this region demand an outspoken, fearless and impartial public champion; and such the News will be if it becomes our province to continue running the same.

For the present, *adieu*.

A Justice of the Peace, ad. interim.

The Link river folks appear to have a way of their own for dispensing justice and securing the ends of the law, as the following incidents, which we have just picked up, tend to illustrate: One of the men located at the ferry had occasion to visit Fort Klamath, and on his return discovered, to his excitable consternation and amazement, that another of the residents, whom we will call B. for short, had been trespassing upon his reserved rights. Without waiting for legal formulas, the injured party proceeded to arrest the offender and took him into custody, with the intention of seeing that the law had full force one time, at least, in the world. But here was another dilemma, which, however, was no sooner mentioned than it was surmounted. The Justice of the Peace for that precinct, Mr. Meacum, was absent; but a leading savant, whom we will call *ad interim* for the sake of being exact, stepped up and notified the parties that the Squire had told him to attend to the duties of the office, and so they went into court. The necessary papers (though in what shape we have not been advised) were issued, and everything seemed progressing harmoniously when the legally elected official returned. It then turned out that the proceedings, so far, had not been according to either Gunther or Deady. The person who had so freely and voluntarily assumed the onerous duties of Constable and Jailor was informed of the liability he was under to a prosecution for false imprisonment. Instead, therefore, of insisting upon a further redress of his own wrongs, he signified his readiness to compromise his legal troubles with the other party by paying him the sum of twenty-five dollars, which, we understand, was accepted.

WAR NEWS.—Bazine is said to have escaped from Metz. He is reorganizing and holds the line of Messierera and Navagne. The French fleet is maneuvering in the vicinity of Dunkirk in such a manner as to cause the Germans to apprehend mischief. The Prussians are reported to have captured Soissons and four thousand prisoners. The sortie under Trochu at Paris on Saturday it is said completed the work of driving Germans from investing positions on south and west of Paris. Germans lost nine thousand killed, wounded and prisoners. Prospects of peace are alluded again. A great concentration of forces is going on on both sides in the vicinity of Orleans, and a big battle is expected. Dispatches of the 18th announce another successful sortie from Paris. Loss 3,000.

DEATH OF GENERAL LEE.—The death of this justly distinguished Southern soldier was made known soon after we had gone to press last week. Our columns are too limited to admit of us giving anything like a satisfactory notice of his services and life. That he was one among the greatest men of the age, is generally conceded. Those who believed and acted with him will never cease to cherish and venerate his memory; those who did not believe with him, but fought and prayed for his overthrow, will not hesitate to acknowledge him to have been a brave, sincere and worthy foe. "Soldier rest, thy warfare's o'er."

The position made vacant by the resignation of Secretary Cox, as soon as heard of, was thought by the friends of Senator Williams to pave the way for his admission into the Cabinet. It appears, now, there are other candidates for the position. Williams has a "heart for any fate" he says, and well doth it stand him in hand to be so circumstanced. We do not remember to have heard of him making Grant a present; consequently his chances for obtaining an appointment are not the most reliable.

The Yreka Journal says that the two year old colt, "Mary Tompkins," winner of the colt race last week, came some time ago from Rogue River Valley, her dam being a full sister to "Minnie Rifleman," owned by Judge Tolman, and sired by "Norfolk."

The big race at Salem on the last day of the Fair was won by "Buckskin" an animal named for the race by E. Rixford, against Grayhound and Jack Miner both. The race is said to have been a very exciting one, being two mile heats, best two in three.

ONE of Ben. Holladay's steamers, the Continental, was wrecked near the Gulf of California the last of last month. All, except seven, of those on board are said to have been saved.

THE Herald understands that J. J. Hoffman, Esq., of Portland, will soon be appointed Surveyor General for Oregon in place of Applegate.

AN extra session of the Legislature is talked of.

An Editor badly Kettled.

The Bulletin kept promising the reading public for some time a description of the *modus operandi* by which certain stock books got under the iron kettle, and last Sunday, sure enough, a column and a half of it came to light. We know nothing about the merits of the case, and the frightful perspiration which the writer seems to have been in so worked upon our feelings that we could hardly understand what the fellow was driving at. He calls it a "tragic story;" but the only murdering we see connected therewith is that of the Queen's English. Here is something that is sufficient to make the hair of the "wickedest man in New York" stand on end:

"Oh, weak, vain, foolish man! Flatter not thyself that you can hang around a thin veil of respectability which shall curtain you in from suspicion and screen you from the criticism of truth. Lay it not to thy soul that wealth and position will protect you from the investigation of honesty and fair dealing, which, peering in on you with ten thousand eyes, will at least weigh you as in a balance, and declare your sins and worthlessness. Yea, verily, some man will cross your path whose mortal vision will read your very souls through unwilling tell tale eyes, and, entering into the charnel-house of your corrupted and perfidious hearts, shall return again, as from the valley of death and dry bones, and make known to the world your very thoughts and secret crimes, that others, being warned, may avoid your paths as they would the pitfalls of destruction."

That's semi-solemn and altogether terrific. What business has any man to be hanging around any sort of a "veil,"—especially a thin one,—unless a pretty face were under it; and even then it might not "screen him from criticism." The promiscuous blinding of "thy," "thyself," and "you" and "your," is, perhaps, only an improvement in the science of euphony; but, candidly, is it true that one man can be possessed of a plurality of "souls" and hearts? We might have inferred from certain passages, that some parties were void of having the usual complement of one heart and one soul apiece: there's an explanation wanted here.

A little further down we find the following dish at Lindley Murray: "The books of the steamboat company, mind you, that is what he wanted." In this instance, that is pretty good for high, as a relative pronoun for "books;" but, if you change the pronoun, it is hard to get along with the singular verb "is."

Such grammar would disgrace a newspaper published in the back woods, and the Metropolis of Oregon should set us a better example.

PROMYSING IN ADVANCE.—The editor of the Portland Bulletin has begun predicting a Radical success in this State at the next general election, already. The wish, as usual, seems father to the thought; but, if his predictions do not help the other side more than the exercise of this same propensity of his used to help the Democracy, we would advise those anxious at present to believe Mr. O'Meara, a prophet—or, at least, a near relative of such a character—not to risk all their loose change at once on such a thing happening. All signs are said to fail in dry weather, and this is a little the driest season ever witnessed, even, by the "oldest inhabitant." To make certainty doubly sure, we have a suggestion to offer; will not our Republican friends put Mr. O'Meara on for State Printer, just to strengthen their ticket? He has always had a kind o' hankering after that little teat, and is uncomfortable and inconsolable at beholding any Democrat extracting sweet nourishment from the same. Will our colored Republicans give him a chance?

The town of Red Bluff boasts a young lady teacher of peanmanship, by name, Miss L. M. Brown. She is said to meet with great success, and who could doubt it? We thought our school days were over, but if the young ladies are to become instructors in chirography, we're "never too old to learn."

ROMANCE.—We have abundant material for a new first class romance; but owing to the fact of the News having to be sold to-day, it will probably never be born. It is none of your blood and thunder yarns, but is wholly an affair of the heart, and runs as smoothly as the babbling brooks.

THE WEEKLY MERCURY.—Mr. Upton sends his paper to us this week in better shape than ever. It is now published at the State Capital, at the very low price of \$2.00, and is really an entertaining, spicy little sheet, with four pages of live reading matter.

YREKA UNION.—This valuable and trust worthy paper has begun its nineteenth year of publication. Under the management of Mr. Irwin it has proven to be both a sound political organ and a number one chronicler of local events. May it continue to prosper.

LEGISLATIVE.—The proceedings of the Legislature are drawing near a close; but it is difficult to give a correct summary of what is actually accomplished until after the session is over. Some important bills passed by one House hang fire in the other. The bill taxing unnaturalized foreigners meets with considerable hostility in the lower House; a memorial reciting the bad effects of immigration from China and asking Congress for a repeal of the Burlingame treaty, passed the Senate by a strict party vote—the Republicans, as usual, voting in favor of the Chinaman; a bill to increase the school tax to four mills was introduced by Senator Hendershott this week; several measures looking to an increase of various salaries are under way—some of them probably laws already. The Judges, we believe, are to receive 3,000 a year. A proposition to adjourn to day, *sine die*, was voted down.

CITY DRUG STORE.—We have neglected our friend Cowan for a long time; but his business patrons know where to find him, and that he keeps on hand the best stock of drugs medicines, etc., ever brought to Jacksonville; and a new supply has lately arrived. The Ague King is gaining a good reputation, wherever it is tried. A new kind of lamp, for this place, called gasoline lamp, with oil, may be found here also.

A BLIND LECTURER.—We are informed that Prof. P. Ratan, an excellent teacher and performer of music, and a blind man at that we believe, will lecture on the education of the blind, and also on music, at the M. E. Church on Sunday evening. The lecture will be free, and it is hoped a fair attendance will be had.

RETURNED.—The party of prospectors who left here some time back to try their luck over in California in the vicinity of Big Valley, where late discoveries were reported, have returned; and from their accounts of the country we infer that it is not a favorable place for prospecting.

IN TOWN.—A number of persons were in town this week from Fort Klamath—Lieut. Thurborn among the rest. The Fort, we believe, is only partially garrisoned at present.

STREET CLEANING.—This long needed work was commenced on Friday of this week.

BORN.

LUY.—In this city, October 18th, to the wife of Frederick Luy, a son.

DIED.

SMALL.—In this city, October 18th, Harry, only son of L. J. and Ina E. Small; aged 7 months.

New, Co-Day.

SUPERIOR PLOUGHS!



WE HAVE RECEIVED A SUPPLY OF those Superior Ploughs which we introduced here last season, and which have given entire satisfaction to those who have used them, being well adapted to different soils.

- Also, a full assortment of COOK, PARLOR, AND BOX STOVES; ASSORTED IRON, NAILS, HORSE SHOES, AND NAILS, MEAT CUTLERY, CEDAR WARE, ROPE, SHELF HARDWARE, OILS, PAINTS, GLASS, &c. &c., Also the celebrated

AMERICAN SUBMERGED PUMPS.

Always on hand a full variety of

TIN AND SHEET-IRON WARE.

Hydraulic Pipe, Tin, Copper, and Sheet-iron ware made to order. HOFEMAN & KLIPPEL, October 15th, 1870.