

POLK COUNTY TIMES.

VOL. 1.

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NO. 14.

THE POLK COUNTY TIMES

Is Issued Every Saturday Afternoon at Dallas, Polk County, Oregon.

F. R. STUART, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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Polk County Official Directory.

Polk county covers an area of about 1,250 square miles. Number of voters, 1,277. Acres of land under cultivation, 93,370. Value of assessable property, \$1,234,329. The Land Office for this District is located at Oregon City—Owen Wade, Register; Henry Warren, Receiver.

COUNTY OFFICERS.—Commissioners, E. C. Dice, R. Tatum, Judge, J. L. Collins; Sheriff, J. W. Smith; Clerk, J. I. Thompson; Assessor, H. Davis; Treasurer, R. M. May; School Superintendent, J. H. Myers; Surveyor, S. T. Burch; Coroner, C. D. Embree.

TERMS OF COURT.—Circuit Court, R. P. Boise, Judge, convenes in Dallas on the 1st Monday in April and 3d Monday in November. County Court convenes on the 1st Monday in each month.

NOTARIES PUBLIC.—T. Pearce, Eola; W. W. Boone, Independence; J. L. Collins, Dallas; H. N. George, Bucina Vista.

POST OFFICES.—Bethel, Bridgeport, Bucina Vista, Dallas (county seat), Eola, Grand Ronde, Independence, Luckiamute, Lincoln, Lewisville, Monmouth, Rickreall, Salt Creek and Zena.

U. S. MAIL LEAVES Dallas for Salem on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7 a. m., returning same days at 6 p. m.; for Independence, each Tuesday morning at 6; for Salt Creek, each Tuesday at 1 p. m.; for Lafayette, Monday and Thursday at 3 p. m., returning Wednesday and Saturday at 10 a. m., returning Monday and Thursday at 3 p. m.

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Physician and Surgeon, Eola, Oregon.

Special attention given to Obstetrics and Diseases of Women. 111

J. E. DAVIDSON, M. D.,

Physician and Surgeon, Independence, Ogn. 1

S. R. JESSUP, M. D.,

Physician and Surgeon, Dallas, Oregon.

OFFICE—At residence, on Jefferson street opposite Academy Block. 1

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Attorneys & Counsellors-at-Law, SALEM, OREGON.

OFFICE IN THE COURT HOUSE. 1

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Attorney and Counsellor-at-Law, SALEM, OREGON.

Will practice in all the Courts of Record and Inferior Courts of this State.

OFFICE—In Watkins & Co's Brick, up stairs. 1

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ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW, Dallas, Oregon.

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Will practice in all the Courts of the State. 1

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J. A. APPLEGATE. JAS. MCCAIN.

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ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW, Dallas, Polk County, Ogn. 1

ASPIRATIONS.

Our aims are all too high; we try To gain the summit at a bound, When we should reach it step by step, And climb the ladder round by round. He who would climb the highest sublime, Or breathe the pure air of life, Must not expect to rise in ease, But trace himself for toil or strife.

We should not in our blindness seek To grasp alone for grand and great, Distaining every smaller good. For miles make the aggregate, And if a cloud should lower o'er Our weary pathway like a pall, Remember God permits it there, And His good purpose reigns o'er all.

Life should be full of earnest work, Our hearts undashed by fortune's frown; Let perseverance conquer fate, And merit seize the victor's crown. The battle is not to the strong, The race not always to the fleet; And he who seeks to pluck the stars, Will lose the jewels at his feet.

POLK COUNTY, OREGON.

From "Statistics of the State of Oregon" by A. J. DREX.

This county, situated on the west bank of the Willamette river, opposite Marion county, and bounded on the north by Yamhill, south by Benton and west by Tillamook counties, has a population of about 5,000 inhabitants, and contains as fine grain, grass and grazing lands, as are to be found in the State.

Lying immediately east of the Coast Range, and in the heart of the Willamette Valley, her fertile soil and beautiful rolling prairies, her numerous valleys surrounded by hills covered by a luxuriant and nutritious growth of bunch grass and wild clover, known only to particular localities in Oregon and California, with various kinds of useful timber more than sufficient to supply the demand for all agricultural, mechanical and manufacturing purposes, with a genial climate, pure water and productive soil, Polk county holds out inducements to industry and enterprise which tend to make a community prosperous, wealthy and permanently blessed.

The face of the country in this county is diversified and hilly, interspersed with numerous small prairies, or what might be more properly called valleys of an alluvial deposit and unusual fertility.

Although there is not that vast extent of broad prairie in this county that gives so striking a feature to many of the great grain growing districts of the west, still the farmer from Indiana, Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin would look with astonishment and delight at the beautiful fields of wheat, yielding from twenty to forty, and in many instances as high as sixty bushels to the acre, free from all those imperfections and diseases that, for the past few years, have proved so injurious to that department of industry in the older States, and furnished an article of flour which can be produced only from the wheat of Oregon.

The industrious, thrifty husbandman, from the frosty climate, bleak hills and sterile soil of happy New England, although at first almost shuddering with horror at the supposed improvidence of the farmers of Oregon, in allowing finer heads of grain than ever before greeted the New Englander's view to be harvested by the hogs, would rub his hands with delight at the thought of the immense fortune that could be realized from the wool, beef, pork, butter and cheese, at so many cents and a sixteenth per pound, that could be so easily produced from these green hills and fertile valleys of Oregon, capable of cultivation for many a month while his own native land is covered with frost and snow.

The immigrant from the sunny South, although not at first particularly struck with the fertility of the soil, as he holds the luxuriant fields of grain, grass, fruit and vegetables, blending so manifestly the productiveness of the South with the healthy, invigorating climate of the North, would, in our fertile valleys, smiling in almost perpetual green beneath the shadow of mountains covered with snow, find a land where the northern lily blooms in its purity in the generous shadow of the southern rose.

Polk county, with an area of 800,000 acres, has about 95,000 under cultivation, and an assessable property of \$1,234,329, being an increase of \$201,350 within the last two years. Although this county has numerous good warehouses and landings for river steamers along the Willamette river the entire length of its eastern boundary, still Polk is decidedly agricultural, and may be set down as one of the substantial farming counties of the State.

While this county has not one eighth of its area under cultivation, it is computed that nine-tenths are susceptible of settlement, and at least four-fifths

might be made to produce wheat, barley, oats, and the different varieties of small grain, and is also adapted to the growth of different kinds of vegetables, also apples, pears, plums, cherries, quinces, grapes, and small fruits; while the peach, and Indian corn, can be cultivated successfully in many localities, with proper care.

The following information was furnished the Committee through the columns of the Polk County Signal:

The public buildings of the county consist of a new court house and jail, which, with the outbuildings, cost about \$13,250.

The average price of improved farming land is about ten dollars per acre; unimproved, three. The base of the soil is clay, with a mixture of sand, oxide of iron, lime, and other valuable ingredients, in varying quantities, and rendering the greater portion well adapted to agricultural and horticultural purposes.

The greatest part of the land in this county that is not well located for agriculture, is as good as can be found for raising horses, hogs, sheep and cattle. Upon the mountains, and along the streams, there is plenty of fir, oak, maple, ash, and alder, and other valuable timber well adapted for fueling, building, and general lumbering purposes.

On the low hills is much valuable oak timber; and far up in the mountains there is fine cedar, yew, and hemlock. There are not many lumbering mills and workshops for converting this timber into lumber and machinery, but there are many excellent and valuable sites for erecting mills and machine shops not yet improved, and some entirely unclaimed. The water is pure, and nearly everywhere abundant. Some farmers have to water stock from wells, but most of them have springs or streams.

For milling and mechanical purposes, the water privileges of this county are valuable and extensive. There is but little liability to damage from overflow. A few farms along the Willamette river are liable to inundation, and there is but a small portion of the land in this county that is inundated every year. Freshets never occur in the spring or summer in this county.

The Willamette river flows along the entire eastern border of the county, from south to north. The Yamhill, the Rickreall, and Luckiamute flow through the county from west to east. These streams, with their numerous tributaries of fresh water from the Coast Range mountains, on the west, supply every part of the county with good water and plenty of it; and where it is not on top of the ground, it may be got but a few feet below its surface.

The temperature of this county is mild. Fahrenheit's thermometer, we believe, never falls below zero, nor rises more than ninety degrees in the inhabited parts of the county, and it is very rare that either of these extremes are reached.

The general health of the county is good. There is some little bilious fever and ague at times along the Willamette river.

As to professional men, we have too many of them now. To tradesmen, mechanics and men of all kinds of industrial pursuits, we say, come and see, there are good openings for all. The facilities for immigrants and new settlers to obtain grain and seeds of all kinds, farming implements, mechanics' tools, provision, clothing and groceries, are as good as in most of the older States. Merchants and traders, at convenient points all over the State, keep all these articles for sale, at reasonable prices. The principal market for the produce of this county is Portland.

We transport by the Willamette river and by wagons, a distance of from fifty to eighty miles. We have four good flouring mills and nine saw mills in this county, with a woolen factory at Ellendale.

The mineral resources of this county are still undeveloped. Gold, silver, copper, iron, and lead have been discovered in small quantities in this county, but nothing of the kind that would pay. We have some fine saline springs which would be very valuable if properly improved and managed, but as yet nothing of consequence has been done in the manufacture of salt.

There is some vacant Government land in this county, but very little of value for agricultural purposes. Some of it is valuable for stock raising, but the most of it is covered with heavy timber, and only fit for lumbering; generally handy to good water privileges for power purposes.

The advantages for schooling and meetings of religious worship in this county are good. Districts for common schools are organized in every neighbor-

hood in the county, with a college at Monmouth, another at Bethel, and a flourishing academy at Dallas. There are good opportunities for religious worship in almost every neighborhood—nearly every denomination of Christians as found in the Union, being represented in the county.

Dallas, the county seat, is situated on the La Creole (Rickreall) river, and is a flourishing little inland town, noted for its enterprise and commercial prosperity. There are other thriving little towns with post-offices and stores, among which we may mention Bucina Vista, where large quantities of earthenware are manufactured. There are also Grand Ronde, Lawn Arbor, Luckiamute, Salt Creek, Bridgeport, Bethel, Lincoln, Eola, Monmouth, Independence, and Eola. Some of these towns have good warehouses, and are convenient shipping points along the Willamette river.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

—On the next monthly showing there will be a reduction of the public debt of about \$5,000,000.

—The vote of the Methodist churches on lay delegation as far as received, show a very large majority in favor of it, and it is predicted that it will be fully five to one.

—An Omaha special says General Auger has received dispatches from Gen. Carr, with the expedition on the Republican river, to the 11th inst. A large village of Cheyennes was taken by surprise and fifty warriors, commanded by Tall Bull, were taken. Seventeen women and children were captured, among them Tall Bull's wife and daughter. The warriors held two white women, captured on the Saline river, as prisoners. They murdered one, name unknown, and attempted to murder another by the name of Maria Weigel. She will probably recover. The Indians were so completely surprised that they were unable to carry off a single package. They left most of their saddles and provisions. Carr captured 150 horses and mules, 8 lodges, 80 rifles and pistols, and a number of camp equipages.

—The cotton crop, from all accounts, will reach or closely approach three million bales.

—A new weekly paper, to be called the *Anti Prohibitionist*, is about to be established in Boston by the liquor trade.

—Governor Reed, of Florida, has issued his proclamation ordering an election on the 24 day of November, to take the sense of the people of West Florida on the question of annexing that portion to the State of Alabama.

—It is proposed by the Cabinet to solve the Cuban question, by the Cubans purchasing Cuba, and the United States endorsing the bonds for the purchase money.

—Rumors are rife of the annexation of San Domingo to the United States.

—It is reported that President Grant is about to issue a proclamation of neutrality as to Spain and Cuba.

—The *Terre Haute (Ind.) Journal* says there is talk of new wheat engagements at 75 cents per bushel.

—Over one thousand Chinamen are now employed as laborers, building a railroad from Memphis, Tennessee, to Selma, Alabama.

—It is reported in New York that Col. Ryan and a large body of men eluded the authorities, and are now on their way to Cuba to assist the Cubans.

—The Cholera has made its appearance in Hoboken, Jersey City and New York.

—The Internal Revenue Commissioner has decided that second hand articles purchased, repaired and sold by the manufacturers must pay the same tax as the new.

—A letter just received from Chief Justice Chase gives flattering accounts of the improved condition of South Carolina. He says the people are fast recuperating from the effects of the war, and, if permitted, would soon be thriving and prosperous.

—A grand daughter of Daniel Webster was married at Westfield last week.

—Georgia is harvesting its wheat—on of the finest crops for years.

—A son of the late General Albert Siney Johnson is a pupil at Gen. Lee's College.

—Hon. John C. Breckenridge is to be the orator in the forthcoming Boone Centennial.

—Judge Parrott, of Georgia, who was recently killed by the newspapers and "K. K. K." is out in a card denying it.

—A female prize fight is the latest sensation in St. Louis. They were permitted to bite, scratch and pound each other until one of them became insensible.

—There has been a terrible disaster on the Erie Railroad, of which the dispatches give very ambiguous accounts. It would seem that two trains collided and that the cars subsequently took fire, destroying many lives.

—Richmond dates to 21st inst. says that official returns show that the vote for Walker is 26,000 short of the white registration, and that of Wells 8,000 short of the colored registration. The objectionable clauses of the Constitution were defeated by 30,000. There appears to be an entirely new revolution in politics, as only six members elected to the Legislature have ever been there before.

—The new French Trans-Atlantic cable has been successfully laid.

—The gauge throughout the entire Missouri Pacific railroad, for a distance of three hundred miles, was changed between the hours of 4 and 8 o'clock P. M. on the 18th. It is said to be the greatest day's work of a similar character ever done.

—*Pays* is the name of one of the Parisian daily papers. *Don't Pays* is the name of a great many in this country.

—A tornado swept over a portion of Clay and Lafayette counties Missouri, last week, doing immense damage. Dwellings and business houses were demolished, and roofs, etc. The corn and wheat fields, orchards and fences throughout the country were seriously damaged. Houses were torn to pieces. In Clay county the storm was terrible. The wheat, corn and the fruit trees and forest trees and fences went down before it. The country on its line of march is in ruins.

—A newly married couple went to bed in a house on Third street, in St. Joseph, on the night of the 9th inst., and awoke in the morning to find every stitch of their clothing gone, together with four dollars in money, the sum total of the bride groom's cash. The happy couple are in trouble now.

—There is a great flood now in the Mississippi river. Several houses have been carried off.

—Owing to the prevalence of cholera and yellow fever, hostilities are at an end, for the present, in Cuba.

—Baron Rothschild's estate has been settled, and amounts to \$340,000,000 in gold.

—A young lady in New Orleans imagines herself a great statesman, and annoys her family greatly by dressing in male garments and making harangues from the front balcony whenever she can elude their watch over her.

—The *St. Louis Democrat* of June 30th says that \$10,000 have been offered as a reward for the head of Sam Hildebrand, the boldest desperado of modern times, who is said to have murdered some eighty persons.

—Hon. Alexander H. Stephens is reported to have entirely recovered.

—Thomas D. Carr, who was last week found guilty of murdering a girl who refused to marry him, at Harveysburg, in Clermont county, Ohio, has been sentenced to be hung on the 20th of August.

—National Bank stock, according to a recent unanimous opinion of the Supreme Court of Iowa, can be taxed under a law of the State to that effect.

—It is said that the bodies of the soldiers killed in the memorable Fort Kearny massacre have been found to be numbered. The victims of that affair numbered eighty-one, and were buried in boxes, each box containing eight bodies.

—A young lady of Jefferson, Ohio, mistook a bottle of violet ink for perfume, in the darkness the other evening, and put some upon her handkerchief, which she used to wipe her face, and, hastening to church immediately after, she created an immense sensation.

—Fresh butter sells at Seguin, Texas, for ten cents a pound, and eggs at five cents a dozen.

—A storm in Iowa carried four thousand feet of lumber a distance of about three miles, tearing the boards to bits as they flew through the air.

—The general government has just allowed a war claim of the State of Iowa, amounting to \$229,827.

—The ceremony of opening the Suez canal will occur November 17th.

—So many Senators have gone to Europe that it is proposed to hold a session there this Summer, and discuss the Alabama question.

—A young lady of Logan county, Ky., advertises for "scaled proposals for her hand and heart."

—The *St. Louis Times* says that there are about 3,000 opium eaters in that city, and that they consume 13,820 grains of morphia daily.

—The whole world on the first of last January had 109,177 miles of railway in operation—and a few years, bounded by existing lives, comprise the history of this extraordinary development of the means of inter-communication. The apportionment of completed railroads is greatly in favor of the United States, and illustrates the readiness of our people to seize and use, in their utmost extent, all the means of national progress.

—Nearly 1,000 men are employed on the St. Paul and Pacific Railway, some of whom have been at work on Union Pacific road. Cars are already running sixty miles west of St. Paul, and the ties are out for ninety miles further. The track is going down at the rate of half a mile a day. It is expected that 160 miles of the road will be completed before the snow flies.

—A diamond ring which has been lost since the fall of 1823, was found in a well at Oswego a few days ago. The well was being cleaned, a process which it had undergone several times since the loss of the ring. Forty-six years this jewel lay at the bottom of the well, and it came out as bright and pure as the day it sunk. The granddaughter of the lady who lost the ring is now its owner and wearer.

—The statistical Record of the Government Bureau, says the *New York Times*, shows that in thirteen years, ending with 1868, over 2,500,000 Europeans emigrated to this country, the greater number coming from the British Isles—as is still the case. Great as is the German influx, it is surpassed by that of the English speaking population, which in this year, up to the present month, amounts to over 54,000 heads, while the German only reaches 47,000. With respect to those set down as coming from England—over 90,000 this year—it is beyond a doubt that great numbers of them are Irish, who came away from the port of Liverpool. The persistence of the Irish exodus is a very remarkable thing, considering that it proceeds from a population not much larger than that of New York State.

—A painful catastrophe has occurred in New York. A beautiful damsel, with all the charms of maidenhood, unfortunately had black hair. Female vanity and Niblo's Theatre taught her that blonde would be more attractive, so she rushed to the dye pot. The artist was engaged for \$100, half in advance. One side of the turbulent dark hair smoothed into golden ripples, when the hair dresser, to increase his profit, resorted to inferior drugs. The effect was disastrous. Purple, and streaked, and gray and burned, and, indeed, utterly ruinous was the last half of the professor's work. There remained for the broken-hearted semi-blonde only the poor consolation of suing for damages.

—A newspaper is not the wisdom of one man or of two men; it is the wisdom of the age, and past ages too. A family without a newspaper is always behind the times in general information; besides they can never think nor find much to talk about. And then there are the little ones growing up without any taste for reading. Who then would be without a newspaper—and who would read one particularly without paying for it?

ITCH PREVENTIVE.—Lewis Muller, Three Rivers, Mich., says a teaspoonful of sulphur enclosed in a cotton bag and suspended by a string from the neck of a person so that it may hang at the pit of the stomach, will prevent taking the itch, if the person wearing it is with scores afflicted with it daily. He has tried it for thirty years.

A PATRIARCH.—There is a man in Ohio who is one hundred and six years old, whose eldest child is eighty years old, whose youngest is six months old, and still mewing in its nurse's arms! The man who becomes a father at the age of one hundred and six years, is a Patriarch of the Patriarchs.

BUSINESS MEN, worn by care and sedentary habits, often suffer from constipation of the bowels, until the evil consequences of such a condition are realized in extreme debility, nervousness and prostration of the vital energies of the system; and it may be safely asserted that a majority of the female sex are little better than invalids, from the same cause; but by simply using Dr. Walker's VEGETABLE VISCERAL BITTERS, this natural aperient and tonic brings back the vigor and buoyancy of health.