

THE INDEPENDENT.

FOREST GROVE, DECEMBER 20, 1873.

RAILROAD TO ASTORIA.

The Columbia river is frozen up tight and fast, and communication with the outside world is not possible. At such a time as this our eyes begin to open to the actual wants of the country. And to what point in our extremity do we involuntarily turn? — to ASTORIA.

TOO MANY "COLLEGES."

There are more colleges (on paper) in Oregon than can be sustained. What we want are high schools and academies, which will give our young men and women a thorough elementary education.

THE INDEPENDENTS IN THE WEST.

From our exchanges we find that the Independents or Anti-monopolists, sometimes called Dolly Vardens, are quite popular and the new organization is not a local one nor is it likely to die in the throes of its birth.

FARMING IN WASHINGTON COUNTY.

In this County of course we do not have large farms, in comparison with the extensive fields of California, but here each man has a section, half-section or a quarter, as the case may be, and so we have a thickly settled community, where wealth is evenly distributed and no large landed proprietor lords it over tenants.

fruit-raising also for a fair yield of wheat. And there are the Beaver-dam lands and swamp lands of which there are several thousand acres lying idle, waiting for capital to bring them into cultivation.

SCHOOL MATTERS.

The New Northwest accuses our County School Superintendents of stock jobbing in Oregon's educational interests, and says it is very plain how it was that these gentlemen, with two or three exceptions, voted the uniform system of text books.

PREPARE FOR FIRE.

A short time ago the dwelling of Mr. McCready in this town took fire and had it not been that it was discovered early in its progress, the whole row of business buildings from Steve Harris's blacksmith shop to Mathew's store would undoubtedly have been burned to the ground.

THE RAILROADS BEATEN.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The Supreme Court to-day decided in the case of Nebraska against the Union Pacific Railroad Company, emphatically sustaining the right of the State to tax the Pacific Railroad.

DEATH OF AGASSIZ.

Louis Agassiz, the eminent naturalist and savan, is dead and another great name is inscribed in death on the scroll of fame. He was born in 1807; studied at Zurich, Heidelberg and Munich; visited the United States in 1846; was elected Professor of geology and zoology in Harvard University in 1847, since which time he has devoted himself to teaching his favorite sciences and writing on and investigating scientific subjects.

"TEETH AND CLAWS."

The recent lecture by Prof. Condon on "Teeth and Claws" at the Congregational church in Portland calls out a pretty sharp rebuke from the editor of the Advocate.

December.

Thou gentle wind, whose sighing murmurs flow And fall with pleasing cadence on the ear Thou seem'st some heavenly visitant below Nor car'st to linger with us mortals here.

EDITORIAL CHANGE.

The Salem Statesman comes out under the editorial control of Sam. Clark, and we congratulate its subscribers on the change.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Liberal Republicans have signified their wish that the Republicans do not class them as Democrats and they will accept such places on Congressional committees as the Republican caucus may assign them.

THE BACK-PAY REACTION.

Congress is sorely exercised now about the Salary-Grab, and "virtuous" members are preparing to disgorge. They are not satisfied with repealing the highest salary act but propose in their honest fit to return their overpay to the treasury.

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