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THE OREGON SCOUT.

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A. K. JONES, Editor. B. CHANCEY, Foreman.

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Lodge Directory. GRAND RONDE VALLEY LODGE, No. 56, A. F. and A. M. Meets on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month.

Church Directory. M. E. Church—Divine service every Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday school at 3 p. m. Prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 6:30.

County Officers. Judge, A. C. Craig; Sheriff, L. W. Wilcox; Assessor, J. L. Williams; Treasurer, A. F. Benson; School Superintendent, J. L. Hoffman; Surveyor, E. S. Lewis; Coroner, E. H. Lewis.

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Departure of Trains. Regular east bound trains leave at 9:30 a. m. West bound trains leave at 4:30 p. m.

PROFESSIONAL. J. R. CRITES, ATTORNEY AT LAW. Collecting and probate practice specialties. Office, two doors south of Postoffice, Union, Oregon.

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A. E. SCOTT, M. D., PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON. Has permanently located at North Powder, where he will answer all calls.

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Jesse Hardesty, J. W. Shelton, Fitch, Shelton & Hardesty, Attorneys at Law. Will practice in Union, Baker, Grant, Franklin and Morrow counties, also in the Superior Court of Oregon, the District Court and Supreme Courts of the United States.

A METEORIC SHOWER.

A Possible Explanation of the Red Light Seen in the Sky After Sunset—An Interesting Record.

A remarkable observation was made recently by Prof. Brooks, an industrious astronomer of western New York. While searching with his telescope for comets he saw what he describes as a shower of telescopic meteors "near the sun."

There are several reasons for thinking that the strange light is the result of some such cause as the presence of meteoric dust rather than of differences of density in the atmosphere leading to extraordinary refraction. In the first place, the phenomenon has not only been visible over an immense extent of territory, but it has lasted several days, and has been in the east before sunrise as well as in the west after sunset, so that any abnormal refraction in the atmosphere would have to be of almost incredible persistence in order to account for the observed appearances.

The vast majority of these meteors are very small, those that are seen weighing on an average probably only a few grains; and since the telescope reveals millions which escape the naked eye it is reasonable to conclude that millions more are too small to be seen even with the telescopes—mere meteoric dust. There are historic instances of supposed falls of meteoric dust, the most remarkable, perhaps, being that of 1875, when Europe, part of Asia and part of North America were covered for months with a dry fog, or haze which excited the greatest alarm.

If, about two hundred years ago, a witness had stated that he had seen a witch at midnight riding through the air on a broomstick, he would have been believed, but if he had stated that he had heard a loud explosion, and found a large hole in the ground, and, upon thrusting his hand in, had found a large stone, which was warm, his veracity would have been doubted.

The best-known meteor is one of 1873, which fell in Wolverhampton, England. A farmer saw a hole in the ground, and an examination showed the ground to be warm, and a meteor was finally unearthed which weighed about seven hundred pounds.

atmosphere, where there is little resistance, and come down with a velocity twenty times greater than that of a bullet. Coming in contact with the atmosphere great heat is generated and the meteor is broken in pieces. The most common meteors are stone, and can not be found because they resemble stones on the earth's surface. In Siberia and South America the most are found. Where they come from has caused much discussion.

The theory is that meteors originally came from the earth, and were due to stupendous volcanic eruptions of ages ago, when the meteors were thrown beyond the attraction of the earth, and sent revolving around the sun. Any stone thrown at the rate of six miles a second, would not return again to the earth, but would be thrown outside of the attractive power. Every one of these must in time enter the orbit of the earth, and must, of course, return to it. The earth, as she swings her ponderous bulk in her orbit, encounters about Nov. 13, the meteor zone. This gigantic hoop or ecliptic consists of a swarm of particles following Tempie's comet in its orbit.

Rev. Sam Jones' Sayings. If I had a creed I'd sell it to a museum.

"What's culture worth if it's nothing but whitewash on a rascal? I'd rather be in Heaven learning my A B C's than in hell reading Greek. I have little taste for theology and botany, but I love religion and flowers. I can't bribe God's grand jury nor defy the court that tries me the last day.

"I have doubts," says one. You just quit your meanness and you will quit doubting. Be honest and pay your debts. There are too many men in the church boarding with their wives. I've seen men not afraid to die, but I never saw a man that was not afraid of the judgment of God.

THE ISLAND OF CEYLON.

A Mountainous Country with a Steadily Increasing Population.

The island of Ceylon is 270 miles in length, 106 in breadth, and very mountainous near the center, there being mountains ranging between 3,000 and 6,000 feet high, ten of which are above the latter limit. The highest is Pidurutalage, 8,296 feet. Large tracts of the island are still covered with dense jungle, in which many wild elephants are to be found; but the wanton slaughter of these useful animals led the government to prohibit their destruction except under special permission.

There are good roads, metaled and graveled, and now 178 miles of railway and 167 miles of canal, which have done much to promote the interests of the country. The population has been steadily increasing, and now it numbers 2,850,000. There are Europeans, Eurasians, and Burghers, Sinhalese, Tamils, Moors, and a few Parsees, Afghans, Malays, and others. The Sinhalese inhabit the interior and parts of the coast, and comprise nearly 2,000,000 of the people, while the Tamils occupy the northern portion of the island, and number about 600,000.

The island has many institutions for the sick and the diseased in body and mind, and in education the people are far in advance of their northern neighbors. English is pretty generally spoken, and particularly among the domestic class. The products of the country are very varied and consist of rice, cinnamon, coconut, paints, tobacco, sugar-cane, and cotton, and latterly coffee, melon, india rubber, and tea have been added. The land is admirably adapted for the growth of rice. The cultivation of coconuts has been gradually increasing, and, though a large quantity is exported, a large trade is done in the coir fiber from the husk and in expressed oil from the kernel of the nut.

The "Dude" Militia. It is a common thing, while standing on the sidewalk in any city where militia or amateur soldiers are on parade, in any state in the Union, to hear slighting remarks made about the "dudes," Smarties, thugs, prize fighters, lawbreakers, and sometimes respectable men who do not see any sense in such parades with guns, feathers and furbelows, make sarcastic remarks that would make the ears of the young soldiers burn if they heard them.

A Disappointed Man. Pat O'Rafferty and Mike Donovan were employed on the roof of a twelve story New York house in process of erection. O'Rafferty bet Donovan a dollar that the latter could not, with a hod of brick on his shoulder, walk along the slippery edge of the wall of the building, about seventy feet from the ground, without falling. Donovan won the bet, but that he did not fall and break his neck was a marvel.

has ever been commended on and laughed at for its dandish propensities as much as the New York Seventh, and yet, when needed, those dudes stand up like a stone wall against a foe, and know fear only by reading about it. After the war there was no use for militia, for a long time. Old soldiers did not care to enlist for fun, after serving four years for business, and those who had not been in battle and a delicacy about going into the picnic militia business, for fear of being laughed at.

Such observations might naturally occur to the individual who was acquainted with the son of G. B. Williams, of Mendon, Mass., who was born without arms and legs, and yet goes around the village and fills a worthy place in the youthful society of the town, with promise of an active and useful manhood in the years to come. The young man is 12 years of age. His features are rather odd looking for his years, and the expression is bright and intelligent. His language and look indicate a belief in his ability to take care of himself before a great while.

He attends the public school and goes round the village without the aid of any other person, but the means to this end were not invented until within a year or so, and not until after a long time of study upon the subject and trial of several aids, which proved by experiment to be of little use. He could get up and down stairs, put on his cap, and roll or throw himself from one point in the room to another without help, but to go much outside of the house it was necessary to carry him. Now he carries himself. For this purpose a pair of wheels similar to those on a boy's velocipede were procured and the axle padded. The boy rests his chest on the pad and by means of his imperfect lower limb propels himself around the town. It required some practice to learn to balance himself at first, but he soon overcame the difficulty. The wheels were obtained in Detroit, efforts to find the kind nearer home having been without success.

A Pioneer of Pioneers. The owner and navigator of a sloop engaged in fishing on the bay is James Peace, 87 years of age, and a California pioneer of the pioneers, having come to this coast in 1818. In 1817 he sailed from England in the ship Nereid, bound for the Columbia river, in the service of the Hudson Bay company. She put into the bay of Monterey, where he became implicated in a mutiny and was placed in irons. In April, 1818, the vessel cast her anchor in the bay of San Francisco, where he stole away in one of the ship's boats, and made his way to the Mission Dolores, where the Fathers furnished him with blankets and a pony and directed him to the camp of William Smith, on the site of Woodside, San Mateo county. In this vicinity he continued to live for sixty-seven years. He was remarkably skillful in the use of tools, and instructed the natives of the Santa Clara mission in their use.

Flipkins came down to the club last night with a great problem weighing on his mind. "If I should stand on my head," said he, coming up to the boys with the air of a man who has a power, "if I stand on my head, the blood all rushes into my head, don't it?" No one ventured to contradict him.

The Old Man Was On Time. For fifty-odd years Squire Nabors has regularly attended commencement in Athens. Every Sunday morning about 10 o'clock Squire Nabors would march in with his blue clawhammer coat on to listen to the commencement sermon. He would come back on commencement day and listen to the seniors speak. Squire Nabors is now in the sore and yellow leaf; his race has been run. He has heard most of the great men of Georgia spread themselves upon the rostrum of the college chapel.

Pat O'Rafferty and Mike Donovan were employed on the roof of a twelve story New York house in process of erection. O'Rafferty bet Donovan a dollar that the latter could not, with a hod of brick on his shoulder, walk along the slippery edge of the wall of the building, about seventy feet from the ground, without falling. Donovan won the bet, but that he did not fall and break his neck was a marvel. "So I won the bet," remarked Donovan, after he had accomplished the perilous feat.

"Yes, I've lost," was the reply; "but once or twice, when your foot slipped, I was in great hopes." Texas Siftings.