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THE OREGON SCOUT.

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Will visit Union regularly on the first Monday of each month.

ALL WORK WARRANTED FIRST CLASS

NORTH POWDER.

News of the Week as Noted by Our Regular Correspondent.

June 11, 1889.

Mr. Edwards and family have moved onto their ranch near town.

Messrs. Baker & Dickey, of La Grande, came over from Cracker Creek last week.

Mr. H. H. Spencer and wife returned from Portland, this week, where they have been on a business trip.

Mr. Devine, of the Baker creamery, was in town in connection with its interests.

Mr. George Venable, station agent, returned on Friday from his tour to the Willamette.

Mrs. Stevens, of Idaho, daughter of Mrs. White, is here on a visit to her mother.

The old school house and lots are for sale in view of building in a new location.

Mr. Robt. Lloyd has quit the drug business and has been on a visit to Cracker City.

A new shoemaker has opened out in business in Mr. Gorham's building.

The Anthony Mill & Flume Co. will begin operations again to-day.

Dr. Honan, of La Grande, was called to attend Mrs. Howard Campbell, last week, who met with a badly bruised arm in a runaway accident.

Some travel of late over the North Powder road to Cracker Creek via Van Patton's mill. Teams can go within four miles of the mines.

The Baker creamery is collecting large quantities of cream in this vicinity. Farmers prefer to sell their cream rather than manufacture it into butter and cheese at home.

Mr. Ed. Charnes narrowly escaped serious injury by a runaway team on Saturday. He brought in a load of lumber and left his team in the street while transacting some business in Spencer & Co's. store, and on returning and attempting to climb upon his wagon again the seat turned in such a manner as to throw him forward at the same time his foot caught in the brake rope. His team becoming frightened ran some two hundred yards or more towards the railroad track where they were stopped before crossing by Mr. Frisby. In falling he swung under his wagon and fortunately caught on to the coupling and held on for dear life during the race, his shoulders coming in contact with the hard ground at times. When released from his perilous position he expressed himself as not being injured to any great extent and drove off to unload his wagon. Had his hands gave way death would have been the inevitable result and he can congratulate himself on the fortunate termination of his wild ride.

A "bunchgress" sheep shearing crew from Well Springs, Marion county, returned from Huntington last week where they have been shearing for various parties, and make the following report: The crew consists of six young men and the first day they worked only six hours and a quarter on Mr. Henry Lewis' band of sheep, and on footing up had removed 505 fleeces averaging a fraction over 84 fleeces to the man or one sheep sheared in less than five minutes, making the best record yet reported in Eastern Oregon. The tally is as follows: L. Petre, 106; Henry Pearson, 102; Robt. Bills, 82; Chas. Jaynes, 72; Wm. Pearson, 72; Jabcob Petre, 72, a grand total of 505. These "bunchgrassers" have been raised in a sheep growing region where opportunities are not wanting to become proficient in the art of shearing. As they did not exert themselves in making this record they are confident of raising it should sufficient inducement be offered or on any disputation of its correctness. Tally one for "bunchgrass."

AJAX.

Merit Wins.

We desire to say to our citizens, that for years we have been selling Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Dr. King's New Life Pills, Bucklen's Arnica Salve and Electric Bitters, and have never handled remedies that sell as well, or that have given such universal satisfaction. We do not hesitate to guarantee them every time, and we stand ready to refund the purchase price, if satisfactory results do not follow their use. These remedies have won their popularity purely on their merits.—R. H. Brown, druggist, Union, Oregon

PINE CREEK.

A Beautiful Catalpa Grove in Eagle Valley.

A WAR BETWEEN RIVAL TOWNS.

Ore Worth $2000 per ton--A Launch on Banner Lake--Other Notes.

I shall have but little to say about mines, not that there is nothing to say, but I have taken a day off and have been down among the tillers of the soil. I have been over the ground where, years ago, I traveled through sage brush and over barren plains, to find now the hill and vale responding to the sturdy efforts of the farmer. And how kindly and generously has nature responded. I found in Eagle valley my old time friend Hon. W. R. Usher, sitting under his own vine and fig tree, watching the growth of flower and fruit, as happy as an English nobleman, which he would be were he not wedded to the life of an American farmer. I found him sitting in the shade of a catalpa grove, which was raised from the seed sent to him from Washington. The catalpa is a tree of very rapid growth. This grove is now two years old, and the trees are from two to five inches in diameter. At eight feet from the ground it begins to branch and bears a white flower much like the locust. His ranch is on Eagle creek near its junction with Powder river, and about thirteen miles from Cornucopia.

Sitting on the porch of his house I was forcibly impressed and the sacred verse I used to sing when a Sabbath school boy, and much better boy than now:

"Sweet fields arrayed in living green,
And rivers of delight."

For so it seemed to me. On either side flows Powder river or Eagle creek, their banks skirted with locust, balm of gilead and cottonwood. All kinds of fruit grow here in the greatest abundance. Uncle Bill has not contented himself with fruit, and flower, only native to the manor, but exotics of every kind greet one's vision. I was more than glad to see an old and deserving friend surrounded with so much comfort and luxury.

SMALL FRUITS.

About two miles from Mr. Usher's place I found Dr. Morris, surrounded by fruits and flowers, and a happy family. Although fully twenty miles from Cornucopia by the regularly traveled road, he comes to town twice a week with ripe strawberries and other fruits. Mrs. Usher is a Georgia lady and though far removed from her sunny south seems happy as a farmer's wife, on her beautiful home in Union county, Oregon. Mr. Usher is likewise interested in the Cornucopia mines with Messrs. Bolles and Senor, and spends a portion of his time in town.

Pine creek is experiencing the throes of almost a civil war. A new town is laid out and a store and Odd Fellows' hall are about completed, over which the old town is very much exercised. There is land and room enough for all.

In town it is very quiet, the working portion of our people being in the hills. The ore now being taken from the lower tunnel was this morning estimated by a disinterested party to be worth $2000 per ton.

Yesterday morning the Nipsic was conveyed to Banner lake under the charge of George Bolles, Clinton Duffy, and Col. Gilmore.

Come out, you people in and around THE SCOUT office, and take a fish and hunt. Can't Dick Griffin get up an excursion from Union. It will do the Union people good to air themselves.

BAUDIN.

THE COVE.

An Interesting Letter From Our Regular Correspondent.

June 12, 1889.

The stage met with quite an accident Friday, by a burr becoming detached and a wheel unexpectedly rolling off. The vehicle overturned, badly demolishing the tongue and top, but fortunately none of the passengers were injured and by some active work the team prevented from running away.

Miss B. L. Morrison, late music teacher of the Ascension school, started east, Saturday. She goes to Kentucky to visit relatives. The young lady leaves behind a large circle of friends, gained by her charming ways and varied accomplishments.

Mrs. Lou Payne has returned from Walla Walla after an extended visit. She was accompanied home by Mrs. Seamons.

Cherries and strawberries are plentiful and loads are being taken to market daily. The berries are of splendid flavor this season and of unusual size.

This end of the famous High valley-Cove road is being opened and improved. W. H. Rundall has the men in charge.

Mumps are still the fashion, there being some six new cases this week. The malady, however, is of the mild form.

The Cove band is now meeting for practice three times weekly and should be able to furnish good music by the Fourth.

Dave Layne is sizing up matters in Idaho City. While on a train a cinder burnt his eye so he will not probably be able to see a good thing as quickly as he otherwise would.

The Cove band will help to make the day hideous, or rather assist in the musical program at the Union celebration.

Prof. Wm. Smith has decided to locate for the practice of law in Baker City. He will move with his family in a short time.

BASEBALL NOTES.

The Cove-Union nine is composed of actual old-time residents of the mentioned towns. The personnel of the club is as follows: Catcher, Frank M. Slocum; pitcher and captain, William Smith; first base, Eugene Foster; second base, Jasper G. Stevens; third base, J. M. Gloss; short stop, Milton Levy; left field, A. L. Ransom; center field, H. L. Deacon; right field, George Baird.

The Cove-Union nine have challenged the North Powder club for a game on the Union grounds on next Tuesday.

The O. R. & N.-La Grande-Star combination style themselves "the giants." It is acknowledged there are no mosquitoes on them when it comes to size and muscular development.

The game Friday of this week will probably be the most exciting contest ever witnessed in the valley. A large number from Cove will attend, and it is said that they will take along what spare "stuff" they have by them.

Professor Smith is swinging Indian clubs and climbing hills this week getting himself into condition for the game Friday. He says he expects to pitch the game of his life. If he does, look out, "giants!"

The home team now have a good outfield. They say every fly will be taken in, Friday, and the usual muffin done away with.

Goss, the new third baseman, is a player of experience. He handles the ball with expression, to say nothing of his effective work with the bat.

In the coming game an American flag will be held in readiness and if Fisher gets another of his dangerous falls the colors will be immediately flown at half mast and resolutions of condolence passed on the spot. "Journal" please copy.

The coming champions in the Grande Ronde, as in the eastern league, are not the giants, we will wager a button.

Harvey Moreland will keep the complete score for the home team—a good idea as it will show each players record for future reference.

Matott and his catcher are said to be in fine condition and will put up a good game. Matott has splendid command of the ball and all he lacks of being a crack pitcher is sharper curves in his delivery.

The playing of Ransom will be watched with interest to see if he will repeat some of his grand stand catches in left field.

Every vestige of sage brush has disappeared from the Union grounds. It is said the mosquitos have been grazing over it.

New goods at Mrs. L. B. Rinehart's this week Hats of the very latest style, also a nice line of feathers, laces, etc.

UNION COUNTY.

The Varied Resources of Grande Ronde Valley.

THE FLOURISHING CAPITAL CITY.

Description of Its Advantages, Enterprise and Possibilities.

The following truthful and accurate description of Union and vicinity we take from the Pacific Express. It was written by Mr. W. W. White, traveling correspondent of the paper, who recently visited the place:

Little is known of Union county outside of Grande Ronde valley and little of that away from the line of the O. R. & N. railroad which skirts along its western line and that close to the mountains. Union county is bounded on the north by Wallowa county and Washington territory, on the east by Wallowa county and Snake river, south by Baker county, and west by Grant and Umatilla counties. It contains eighty townships of six miles square each, 2880 square miles, and 1,543,000 acres of land.

There are in the county, as given to the assessor 239,755 acres of deeded land valued at $1,322,559; improvements on undeeded land, $44,985; value of town lots, $336,624; value of horses, $370,272; value of cattle, $273,895; value of swine, $160,811, making a total valuation of taxable property, $2,476,529.

The county also embraces the following valleys: Grande Ronde, Indian, Eagle, Pine, Powder river and Antelope. Within these valleys is some of the finest land within the state of Oregon, from off of which are raised wheat, oats, barley, timothy or herd grass, alfalfa and clover. The yield of wheat is about thirty-five bushels to the acre, oats fifty to seventy-five bushels to the acre, barley forty-five to fifty-five bushels to the acre, timothy grass from two to three tons to the acre, and alfalfa, which is cut three times during the season, from five to seven tons per acre. It is therefore doubtful if there is any other county in the state of Oregon, whose average of crops per acre will come up to that of Union.

There is in the county some of the finest blooded stock in the state, both of horses and cattle, and the raising of this stock is encouraged by the system of valuation placed upon them for taxation, for they are valued at no higher figures than common stock, which encourages stockraisers to raise the best, and the result is that you see less poor stock in Union county than in any other county in the state.

Fruits, such as apples, plums, cherries and pears grow to perfection, the palatableness of which excels that of fruits raised in the Willamette and other places west of the Cascades. Many of the smaller fruits do well when properly cultivated.

Although Union county can boast of its fine lands and herds of stock, it still has another resource of wealth which is now attracting the attention of men of capital and that is its mines. Within its borders are situated the following mining districts: Cornucopia, Sparta, Sanger and Pine creek. Some of these mines are now in the hands of men of means, who are putting up machinery to reduce the ores thereof. The prospects obtained therefrom justify a large outlay and expenditure of money to further develop the mines.

Union county is not one-tenth prospected, for there lies within her borders miles upon miles of mountain ranges, the appearance of which justifies the belief that they are full of mineral deposits, and it would not be a surprise should Union county become the equal of Shoshone county, Idaho, in point of mineral wealth and resources.

Besides its agricultural lands, herds of stock and mineral resources, there are within its borders some fine, growing towns, which are Union, La Grande, Island City, Summerville, Elgin, Hilgard, North Powder, Cove, Sparta, Pine Valley and Cornucopia, the last four being the mining centers of the county.

The valleys of the county are well watered. A scarcity of water is unknown and in only one or two portions is irrigation necessary. By irrigation the land is made to bloom and blossom like the rose of Sharon.

There is in the county sixty school districts with an enrolled pupilage of 3,053, drawing public moneys to the amount of $10,907 05, and in some of the districts a high standard of education is maintained.

The population of the county is estimated at 15,000, which is a fair estimate, and it is constantly increasing by a steady influx of immigrants who are settling in the hills and bringing them into a state of cultivation. The soil is excellent for the production of wheat, barley, oats and timothy grass.

The hills and mountains of Union county are covered with a fine growth of timber which is manufactured into lumber and ties and finds a ready market, not only in the valley but to the railroad company. Wood for the valleys and towns is obtained in the mountains and brings from $4 to $6 per cord.

Now, as competition is the life of trade, what Union county wants is another railroad to enter its portals, for they know that they will then have a choice of routes and places with which to deal.

The climate of Union county is excellent, although the winters are somewhat cold. The atmosphere being dry the cold is not felt so much as in a climate where the atmosphere is damp and not exalted. In the summer there are some days of hot weather, but the nights are cool and refreshing.

THE CITY OF UNION.

The Oregonian-abused little city of Union is the county seat of Union county. It lies in the southern part of Grande Ronde valley, and is built on both sides of Catherine creek, which runs through the center of the city, dividing it into two parts. It is finely located and beautifully situated. The banks of the stream are lined with a fine and splendid growth of shade trees of various kinds, presenting for a long distance the appearance of a large and beautiful grove. The business portion of the city is on the south side of the creek and mostly upon one street. On the north side of the creek is the main residence portion of the place. The city is well laid out. The streets wide and run north and south, east and west, and cross each other at right angles.

The city is situated in nearly the geographical center of the county of Union, and if the efforts of some to secure the removal of the county seat from here to La Grande succeeds it will be at the expense of the whole county, in losing the southern portion thereof, as the citizens of Powder River valley, Sparta, Cornucopia and, in fact, the whole southern portion of the county declare that they will no longer remain in Union county, but that they will make a strenuous effort to be annexed to Baker county, as it will be more to their interests to do so. Besides this there will be the expense of building a new set of county buildings at a cost of not less than $40,000 or $60,000, thereby increasing the taxation and expense of the county.

The main resident portion of the city, on the north side of the creek, is almost a paradise. The lots are large and surrounded by those almost indispensable blessings and luxuries and almost necessities, shade trees, giving it a look of beauty. The residences, although not of a grand and majestic style, are beautiful and elegant. The home cottages present an appearance of comfort and ease, and in some instances of luxury. The lots are dotted with fruit trees of apples, cherries and plums, and small fruits, all of which are loaded with an abundance of fruit. The front yards are adorned with beautiful and magnificent flowers, all showing that the citizens of Union desire the useful, but also have a keen and lively appreciation for the beautiful and grand. The foothills are of azure green. The snow clad peaks of the Blue mountains and Eagle Creek range present themselves to the vision and dispel the monotony of a prairie scene, and the seeker after a home can find here a lovely and beautiful spot wherein to satisfy his desires.

The citizens are making strenuous efforts to have the Hunt system of railroads brought into Union and are leaving no stone unturned to secure and accomplish that object. Mr.

Continued on last page.

☞Guns, Ammunition, Field Glasses, Fishing Tackle, etc., at Greatly Reduced Prices at A. N. Gardner & Co's Jewelry Store.