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Fine Line of Watch

es, Clocks, Jewelry,

OUR TRAVELER.

His Interesting Experiences on the Road.

SOME REMARKABLE EVENTS.

Farmers and Politics—Manner and Customs of the Natives.

Muskegon, Iowa, Jan. 29, 1890.

EDITOR OREGON SCOUT:—

We left our old home the 18th on the first sleighing snow of the season, which fell on the morning of the 14th, and on the morning of the 16th the thermometer registered 20 below zero; twenty-four hours after it was 10 above, making a variation of 30 degrees in that time. Is it any wonder people migrate to the genial clime of Oregon?

On our way to the train we stopped to see an old friend, Mr. George Schneck, whom we had not met for eighteen years. His wife was absent at the bedside of her invalid mother. He is a successful farmer of broad views and good management. Sale of stock at the proper time has kept him even in purse at the present prevailing low prices. We regret our stay was so short, but we bade him and his little children adieu knowing they will be readers of THE SCOUT.

We have talked with a number of farmers here who are utterly unable to support their families and pay their taxes on a good forty acre farm, and they were farmers who were perfect masters of their business. Of course, the farms of such men are worked under a high degree of discipline, but there is no noise about it. Men of good business minds do not make much noise in the management of their business. Men of good, broad, practical minds do not make much noise any where. It is the little things of this world that are the noisiest. Butter 12 cents per pound; eggs 12 cents per dozen; hay \$3 per ton; taxes 22 mills. Buying potatoes at 10 cents per bushel and shipping them to California. The corn crop of Iowa is estimated at 336,000,000 bushels. No other state ever raised such a crop. But where is the benefit of all this huge crop diverted to? Certainly not to the toiling, ever-patient farmers who are selling it off at 12 cents per bushel. At the Farmers' Alliance some evenings ago there was discussed the reasons why such prices existed in the face of universal prosperity. The principal reason, it was thought, is on account of our money being locked up in the United States treasury. One enthusiastic cuss says we will all soon get a government pension, when our troubles will be ended. This same Mr. Hill we found to be a member of the G. A. R. The members of this class are generally well clad, good feeders, fat and lazy. This Grand Army has a right wing and a left wing, as other armies have, and a reserve corps, but in this case the reserve corps greatly outnumber the soldiers proper. The right wing of the Grand Army is composed of those who hold office under the government of the state or nation, and behind them is a huge reserve of anxious expectants. The left wing of the army is composed of those who in the hour of their country's need are expected to fearlessly draw their pensions, and behind these is a greater army of those anxious to be enrolled and expect to be as soon as Tanner's substitute can get around to it. Thus goes the government surplus. Who will say the farmers' surplus does not fall in there too? Harrison in his big message says of those who were mustered out in sound health and have since the close of the war, while fighting with the same indomitable and independent spirit the contests of civil life, been overcome by disease or casualty. And then comes Gen. M. M. Trumbull who is very anxious that the pension temptation shall not bring dishonor upon the Great Grand Army and he gives the treasury raiders a lashing which ought to make them wince.

The ladies here are slaves to the bustle. An old hayseed espied a box of them setting out and mistook them for the late patent wire dishcloth and bought one. Half the young men here are bald headed from the efforts to fill all requirements of the dude fashion of sliding off the hat when meeting their best girls. At Okaloosa we were captured by the salvation army. The captain was a Mrs. Dries, three years in the service. There are forty-five valiant soldiers. By their creed they prohibit dancing, drinking and fine dress, and everybody is consigned to endless perdition who does not believe as they do. For church music they use violins, tambourines, brass horns, bass and snare drums, etc. The best of the best is the best pitch, making a combination of outlandish and unearthly strains that would frighten even the devil.

At Ottumwa we had four hours layover waiting for the train to Red Oak, but failed of an interview with Doc. Hamilton's relatives there, as the office was vacated by La Grippe or "Grip" as it commonly called here. However, we saw a Jewish marriage. The woman was placed on the right, but throughout christendom her place in the ceremony is on the left. At Chariton we learned something the like of which we never heard before—a birth and a wedding in the same house at the same time. The doctor's daughter, Susan, became a happy bride and his other daughter, Mrs. Lockwood, who was visiting there, became the happy mother of a sweet little girl. These are events that cannot well be postponed, and so the venerable doctor and the ever practical preacher, with the natural courage of their natures, had them both occur at the same time. Ottumwa is the place where we turn our face westward and homeward. The train is due in twenty minutes now for Red Oak.

R. R. EXTENSIONS.

An Easy Route Through the Mining Regions.

OPINIONS OF AN ENGINEER.

The Natural Advantages of Union Will Make it a Large City.

SPARTA, Oregon, Feb. 1, 1890.

EDITOR OREGON SCOUT:—

During a residence of three years in Eastern Oregon, much time and attention has been devoted in acquiring information regarding the geography and topography of the country, and the facts are brought out that owing to the geographical position of Union it can be made the commercial emporium as well as the railroad center of Eastern Oregon. From Union, at least three available and accessible routes present themselves for railroad building, among which the Idaho extension of the Hunt railroad seems the most important at this writing, and is made the subject matter of this article. Rapid development of the natural resources of a country means rapid and permanent building up of the towns accepted as commercial and manufacturing centers, backed by natural advantages, and best of all, push, energy and enterprise of the citizens. Union has all the essentials to make her the Queen city, and if your citizens will stand by the natural advantages your town possesses, she will bound into prominence and outgrow the expectations of your most enthusiastic admirers.

Follow me along the route I propose to take you from Union to the Seven Devils country; figure closely the advantages offered the railroad and the benefits that will accrue to the people along the route and you will say as I do the extension of the Hunt road from Union to Idaho is an assured necessity. From Union the road will be built up Catherine creek ten miles, then cross an easy divide five miles to Big creek, then down Big creek fifteen miles to Powder River valley; thence to Snake river twenty-five miles, then down Snake three miles to Lewis creek, up which stream is found the only accessible route to the rich gold, silver and copper fields of the Seven Devils country in Idaho. When this road is built, which surely will be, at least two other roads as feeders to Union will reach out their arms and gather in the products from mine and mill, agriculture and lumber, making your town the manufacturing as well as trade and railroad center. Thousands of acres of the most productive lands will then attract the attention of the settler; happy homes will be made, where to-day the bark of the coyote is the only music made. Eagle, Pine and other productive agricultural valleys will furnish many car loads for shipment. Hundreds of car loads of horses, cattle and sheep will go to the markets of the world over this line, and the mines of Sparta, Cornucopia and other points tributary will prove a source of great revenue to the road as soon as completed.

But few of your readers have the slightest conception of the immensity of the copper deposit in the Seven Devils country, and when I say without fear of successful contradiction that forty car loads of high grade copper ore can be mined daily for the next twenty years and not sink below water level, some idea can be formed of the extent of this mineral belt. Hematite and specular iron ores of superior quality are found in inexhaustible quantities in the mountains of Idaho, which need the touch of capital and transportation to make them productive of untold millions. The route given is accessible; the advantages set forth seem sufficient, and by careful management the road will be built and we can all rejoice at the benefits bestowed upon our fellow man.

O. S. B.

TELOCASEY TATTTLINGS.

Feb. 4, 1890.

Section hands have been in demand here for some days past.

John Cates is able to navigate again, after a serious attack of rheumatism. A pond of water two feet deep has been standing in main street during

the recent reduction of the many deep drifts near here.

John Hanson is our regular manipulator of the saw and chisel now. Those having carpenter work to do please call.

We expect to be supplied with an extra operator in a short time to do night duty. It will be a great convenience to the post-master and to the many passengers who daily arrive at and leave our station.

All the cellars in this vicinity are chuck full of water. Two week ago it was a hard matter to get water with which to wash before breakfast, but now we are receiving a tremendous supply.

Those who listen to the sermons of our neighboring ministers, occasionally, have their knowledge of history shocked by the broad deviations said ministers often make. If a man is going to be an instructor let him be a truthful one.

The treatment the prodigal urchins who recently left here, are reported to have received at the hands of La Grande's timber populace, and vagrant railroaders, should be looked after by friends of said boys. Such a brainless, shameless, detestable crowd is a fine representation of a town that aspires to be a county seat. Nothing better could be expected in such a low and leperous place.

The hills "around about Jordan" or Telocaset, are nearly bare, and the roads that lead thereto are tough. The way of the transgressor is a handy way in these parts.

(Sunday school teacher.) Now children, any of you tell me how Elijah went out of the world. (Original scholar.) "Like Bludso got out jail—backed up to the window and fell out."

Through a private letter from William Ashby who now resides in Pine valley, we learn that he has killed two cougars, and some fur bearing animals. He is settled permanently in that place, and is well pleased with the location.

SIR SINGLE.

CORNUCOPIA.

A Bright Outlook for the Pine Creek Mines—The O. G. M. Co.

The Democrat was the recipient of a very pleasant call yesterday from Mr. Robert Kelley, of Cornucopia, who was on his way to Portland to be absent a few weeks. In regard to the outlook of the mines of Cornucopia district, Mr. Kelly said:

"The people of the Pine creek mines are more hopeful that a number of mining sales will be made this summer than they have ever before been."

"From a careful noting of the camp I find 26 mines that, as far as work has been done on them, give almost positive evidences of becoming dividend paying properties. And there are a legion of other mines that are in that indefinite condition that it would be too risky to predict their future, but doubtless a reasonable per cent. of them will also prove to be paying mines."

"This number of mines that have every prospect of becoming dividend paying properties will be considered as an over-estimate by the majority of mining men, but the failing has been that experts in coming to examine the mines have remained but a few days, while it would take with laborious exertion at least two weeks to examine the district."

"The O. G. M. Co. commenced on the 26th ult. to break the road to the Red Jacket, and which will be opened to the mine on the 1st or 2nd inst. There was but little damage done and in a few days everything will be put in running order again. The mill will most likely start up in two or three weeks."

"The new superintendent, Mr. Peole, has had a most trying and discouraging time since he came to the camp, but he appears determined to push things, and patience with a continued effort will overcome all difficulties and again we will soon hear the humming sound of the stamps and the shrill whistle of steam."—Democrat.

Military Goods at Cost.

Messieurs Bidwell & Benson the enterprising milliners of this city will now sell all fall and winter goods at actual cost. As their goods are all of the newest styles, those wishing bargains will do well to call at once.

ALBANY.

The Queen City of the Willamette Valley.

THE FIRST STREET RAILWAY.

Electric Light Plant—Woolen Mill—The Santiam Water Ditch.

EDITOR OREGON SCOUT:—

I have been a careful reader of your invaluable paper for some time and never having noticed anything from this thriving section of God's universe, I will endeavor to give your many readers a few facts concerning our prosperous and growing city.

Albany is a splendidly situated town of between 4,000 and 5,000 inhabitants, contains, besides the usual dry goods, grocery, hardware stores, etc., ten church houses and colleges, a public school, employing eight teachers, a sisters college, four flouring mills, two planing mills, a woolen mill, iron foundry, ice works, chair factory, wire mattress factory, and as good an electric light system as there is in Oregon.

The motive power to run all this is furnished by the Santiam canal which brings water from the South Santiam river to Albany, 14 miles, and has a running capacity of 200,000 inches per minute. This canal furnishes the city with water which is forced all over the town from the pumping station at the end of First street.

Albany built her first line of street railway last year and now has in operation about one mile of road and we are assured by the company that it will be lengthened as the needs require.

Over \$700,000 worth of real estate transfers were made in Albany for 1889 and over \$400,000 was expended in buildings last year.

Among the sound institutions of Albany might be mentioned the Farmers and Merchants Insurance Co., Albany Building and Loan Association, Bank of Oregon, Linn County Bank, and also the First National Bank. These, with the rest of our business men, report a good business.

A three story brick woolen mill was erected at a cost of over \$75,000 and is now in full operation. The Sugar Pine Door & Lumber Co., of Grant's Pass, Or., have completed arrangements to establish a branch house here, work on which will be commenced at once.

Albany is the meal station of this division of the Southern Pacific R. R., also of the Oregon Pacific which is now operating about 145 miles of road extending from Yaquina Bay, the western terminus, to Coe, its present eastern terminus, and will reach Boise City as soon as it can be built. This will bring Albany on two transcontinental lines. We have rail, and rail and steamer connection with San Francisco, also rail and river connection with Portland. Thus, you see, giving us the very best of transportation facilities. As soon as spring opens work will be begun on the Albany & Astoria railroad which will give Albany two direct rail outlets to the sounding sea.

The Bank of Oregon will begin the erection of a three story brick and iron building as soon as the weather settles. The building outlay for 1890 will reach more than one million dollars.

Albany's growth is not spasmodic nor of the boom character, but a good, solid growth which will stay. There are many other features which we might mention, but will stop at this for to-day. Anyone wishing information can obtain it by applying to either of our newspapers, of which we have two daily and two weekly.

Hoping you may see enough good in this to want another, I am,

Yours for prosperity,
P.

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THE BEST SALVE in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chills, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale at Brown's drug store.

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