

ALICEL NOTES.

Our Regular Correspondent's Budget of News.

Grain Shipments--Farm Notes--The Measles--Open Crossings for Farmers--Personals.

ALICEL, Jan. 12, 1891.

The city has been quite lively of late.

Mrs. C. C. Stanley is very sick, at her residence in Alicel.

The U. P. is now running regular trains on the Elgin branch.

Jake Gulling is the ticket puncher on the Elgin branch of the U. P. road.

Rev. McCart, of the Cove, was visiting his mother at the postoffice this week.

Mr. Lucker closed a very successful term of school in the Fairview district last Friday.

The elevator company have shipped about twenty car loads of grain from Alicel, lately.

The old time stage coach will soon take its exit from Grande Ronde. The locomotive pushes it further and further into the interior.

Mr. Measles has come on the Ridge again to visit those he has not been with. This time Messrs. James, Stanley and Childers are entertaining him.

Ida and Rachel Brooks came up from the Willamette valley where they have been attending school, to visit their parents. While here they took the measles and were unable to return.

The U. P. Engineers have staked out open crossings on the Elgin branch, for most of the farmers on the Sandridge. They don't stand any show with the grangers in a law suit with a granger jury.

The rains a few days ago wet the ground sufficiently to enable the farmers to start the plow. So there was one of those teams in every field. On the third day the ground was frozen so the plows would not enter the ground.

Wm. Ruckman is monarch of all he surveys. When he gets upon the back of his off wheeler he speaks gently to his team of eight horses and they move off like they understood every word he says to them. Billy would rather drive that team than be out sleighing with his best girl.

Let "Carrie C." of the Summerville Press, name their town. We have heard so many names for the little infant that I am afraid it will die on account of names. She calls it "Richard." The owner of the land calls it "Esterville." (I suppose after his wife and mother) and I think that would be the proper name for it. Somebody else called it "Iona," and the railroad company call it "Lone Tree," so we have a right to call it "Kettle-belly," if we want to. Gentlemen, get together, select a name, print it in large letters and stick it up on the gate post near the town so we all can see it.

Hon. J. L. Roe returned recently from an extended trip through Kansas and Iowa. He reports that everybody he saw was a democrat. Not a solitary republican in Kansas or Iowa and the farther east he went the worse. He would not venture across the father of waters for fear he would turn democrat himself. He found the working class in such a deplorable condition, (on account of the McKinley bill) that tears trickled down his cheeks as big as Grande Ronde taters. He was so generous with his money, helping the poor and the needy, that if he had not purchased a round trip ticket when he left he would have never been able to get back. Mr. Roe, in one respect, is like the great and immortal Grant--he is very fond of bull pups--and brought two of them home with him. MINERVA ANN.

WASHINGTON.

News of the Week as Noted by Our Regular Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, D. C. Jan. 2, 1891.

EDITOR OREGON SCOUT:

The senatorial situation was never in a worse middle than it is today. Nobody can say with any certainty what the result will be, there is so much pulling at cross purposes on all sides. First, because most numerous, comes the republicans who want the election bill passed and who believe the closure rule to be necessary in order to get a vote on that measure; then come the republicans who want free silver coinage and who don't care a continental about either the election bill or the closure rule; then there are the republicans who neither support nor op-

pose the election bill with any spirit, but who gladly assist in keeping that measure before the senate, because it prevents the consideration of financial legislation, to which they are unalterably opposed; the democrats are solidly united in opposition to the Election bill, and it is generally believed that they will agree to sacrifice any or all legislation if thereby they can bring about the defeat of that measure.

Everybody is taking a long breath, so to speak, for the decisive contest which will begin Monday and end with the triumph of some one of the forces above mentioned. Some idea of the feeling of the free coinage republicans may be gained by the following remarks made by Senator Teller: "I wish to say that I think there are other subjects which ought to be brought before the senate of infinitely more importance than the election bill. We stand in the very face of a great financial convulsion, and no matter what gentleman may say, the best minds in this country assert today that we are on the very verge of a financial panic. I know that certain bankers in the city of New York are saying that everything is lovely. Why? They dare not say otherwise. If the great mass of people of this country were fully aware of our financial condition they would see that there is danger of financial ruin to thousands and tens of thousands of men who are absolutely solvent today. I believe it is the duty of the senate to meet those questions; not that I put dollars and cents above human rights or above liberty, but there can be no liberty in any country where there is not prosperity of the people, and the people today in every portion of this country are muttering their discontent against existing facts and existing conditions. They are demanding legislation at our hands, and rightfully demanding it." A member of the House, who is decidedly favorable to the Farmers' Alliance, remarked to me as Mr. Teller finished his short speech: "If Teller wasn't a lawyer that speech would make him eligible for membership in the Farmers' Alliance."

The presence of Hon. Robt. T. Lincoln, United States minister to Great Britain, has revived the talk about a crisis having been reached in our negotiations with the British government in relation to the Behring sea dispute, and the air is again full of rumors, some of them of the most sensational and improbable character. The correspondence between the two governments will be submitted to congress in a few days, and then it can be seen whether the situation is as grave as some gossamer gossips would have us believe.

New Year's is always a gala day in Washington, and yesterday was no exception. The official reception at the White House was a great success and was attended by all the people of prominence now in Washington, including all of the official representatives of foreign countries, and the stream of big guns went direct from there to the large residence of Vice President Morton to attend a reception held by him and Mrs. Morton. Later, all masculine Washington called upon its feminine acquaintances.

Justice Brown, of the supreme court, having had his nomination confirmed by the senate and his commission signed by the president, is now ready to take his seat, and will do so when the court meets next week.

Senator Wolcott shocked the republicans and shamed the democrats in a speech announcing his opposition to the election bill. He said in effect that he opposed the bill because it was an attempt to put ignorance on top of intelligence in certain southern States.

Prof. Koch's lymph, the new consumption remedy, is being thoroughly tested by the physicians in charge of Garfield hospital in this city. The experiments have not yet lasted long enough for the formation of an intelligent opinion as to the result.

The postoffice department is, at the request of Mr. Harrison, investigating the recent killing of the postmaster at Carrollton, Mississippi.

If the senate does not change its tactics an extra session of congress just after the fourth of March is inevitable; it has been in session a month and has done practically nothing.

The senate census committee, which is considering the apportionment bill, by making the membership of the House 350, giving New York and Minnesota each an additional member. J. H. C.

ESTRAY NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that there was taken up by C. S. Gray, on Clover creek in the precinct of North Powder, Union county, Oregon, and posted before the undersigned a justice of the peace for the above precinct one dark iron gray horse, supposed to be 12 years old, 15 1/2 hands high, branded with a capital D (script) on the left shoulder. Appraised at \$75 this January 2, 1891. JOHN EDWARDS, Justice of the Peace.

FROM THE COVE.

Literary Society Formed--An Honored Mason.

Petitioning the Legislature to Enact a Law Relating to Right-of-Way of Irrigating Ditches.

Cove, Jan. 11, 1891.

Skating is good on the sloughs and river. The boys who own or can borrow skates are indulging in the sport.

Born, to the wife of C. G. Olsen, Jan. 10th, an eight pound girl. Charlie has quit grinding and spends his time rocking the young lady.

At this writing, a twelve year old daughter of L. B. Haggerty is dangerously sick with pneumonia fever, having developed with an attack of measles but the most are light and soon leave the victim.

Mr. E. P. McDaniel a prominent Mason was presented with a beautiful emblematic watch charm by the members of the lodge last week. The present was totally unexpected and was an entire surprise.

Mrs. Marion Lieurance has arrived from Vinona Wis. Mr. L. and wife have purchased a part of the old Barne's place east of town and are putting out an extensive orchard under the direction of Mr. J. C. Doney.

A literary society has been formed in Lower Cove and on the Sandridge and hold meetings alternately at the Chandler school house and Big Lake school house. Much interest is taken and the sessions are very entertaining.

Mr. Wallace Bogles circulated a petition through Cove, this week, praying the legislature to enact a law granting the right to construct irrigating ditches through any land, provided reasonable damages are paid. It was generally signed.

Messrs. Daugherty, Phy, S. G. White and A. R. Robinson having been appointed a committee to look over the grounds and take soundings in the Bloom-French water right case, completed their labors Tuesday. Their testimony will be taken next week by the referee.

Mrs. J. J. McDonald and daughter, Mrs. A. A. Ellis and son of Red Lodge Montana, visited friends and relatives in Cove this week. Mrs. McDonald's health is improving. Mrs. Ellis is the irresistible Lou of old and her son Master Ellsworth is a manly young fellow and takes after his mother in the above mentioned trait. Mrs. E. expects to return home in about two weeks.

WALLOWA COUNTY.

A Farmer Discourses on the Financial Situation and Cause Thereof.

THREE BUCK, Jan. 7, 1891.

EDITOR OREGON SCOUT:

The weather continues to puzzle the oldest inhabitants. At no time has there been sufficient snow for sledding, since last March. The lowest degree indicated by the Thermometers, is 16 degrees above zero, yet, there is ample time before the equinox, for severe weather.

The people over here are in distress by reason of the scarcity of money. Creditors have recently sent out urgent duns to their debtors living in all parts of the county. It is as difficult for some of us to give a bankable note as it is to pay cash. We can do neither. Hence we shall be no longer credited. Better would it have been for us had we never asked for credit, but we did, and now the evil days have swept down upon us like a pack of hungry wolves upon a sheep fold. Should we survive the onslaught, we trust our experience will enable us to steer clear of any of the rocks that have risen so threateningly around us.

A call has been made for the farmers of Upper Prairie creek to meet at Pleasant Center school house, on Saturday evening next. The object in view is to talk over the financial distress of the county, and to talk of the expediency of beginning at once, the survey of a course that will lead us away from the humiliating thralldom in which we are held by middle men. It is a well established fact, though not generally known, but a truism, nevertheless, that the dry goods merchants of Wallowa valley sell their wares at prices largely in excess of prices for the same goods sold by La Grande merchants. The merchants of La Grande are contented with their profits. Wallowa merchants buy in the same markets as they, and at no disadvantage. Then they ought to be contented with the profits realized by La Grande merchants, with freight

charges added. The freight charges on all dry goods is nominal. I paid a Union merchant 10 cts. for a handanna. For the same kind of handkerchief I paid a merchant of Joseph 25 cts. The Union merchant's profit was 100 per cent. Then what was the Joseph merchant's profit? Only 400 per cent. Last fall Mr. B., a merchant of Enterprise, bought a dozen eggs, paying therefor 15 cts. in goods, say a paper of corn-starch. A La Grande merchant retails corn-starch for 10 cts. a paper, thereby making 50 per cent. profit on the cost of the starch. Mr. B. does not buy his goods in La Grande, but he buys in the same market, and presumably at same price rates. The pound of corn-starch, then, cost Mr. B., of Enterprise, 65 cents, plus 1 cent freight charges. Mr. B. sold the eggs in La Grande for 25 cts. cash. His profit on the pound of starch, then, was 17 1/2 cts. or 22 1/2 per cent. Those and kindred burdensome and excessive charges for their goods, by middle men, have driven many farmers to utter financial ruin. Is there no remedy? J. J. BAYANS.

NORTH POWDER.

An Epidemic of Measles--The Railroad Fatal to Chinamen.

MEASLES, MEASLES! MEASLES! The holidays being over the town is quiet.

Van Fluemmer now answers to the name of "Dad." His wife presented him with a son on the 11th inst.

Miss Nettie Vandecar visited friends in Baker City the latter part of last week.

J. E. Carroll's new blacksmith shop, 26x40 feet is about completed and he will occupy it in a few days. He is going to raise the old shop and convert it into a livery stable.

Nearly every family in this section is afflicted with measles, but fortunately the epidemic has not assumed a malignant form, and everybody seems to be getting along nicely.

Samuel Flesman, our gentlemanly blacksmith, met with a painful accident last Friday. While removing a timber from a wagon he completely crushed the second finger of his left hand.

The white men here have been discharged and Chinamen put in their places. It seems hard to see good, honest, industrious men with families thrown out of employment and dirty Mongolians take their places.

John Washum, one of our most energetic young men, has bought the John Lawler place on Clover creek, and is going to try his hand at farming. We wish him success.

Cam. Edwards, who has been working at G. H. Bobier's logging camp in the Blue mountains, returned home last week, with the measles. He expects to return to work in a few days.

Messrs. Stout & Salisbury will begin trucking in logs laying in the river just above town, tomorrow. The Oregon Lumber Co. is going to set a mill and saw them up as soon as possible. These logs have laid in the river for from five to eight years, and must be in very bad condition.

THE HARVESTER TRUST.

It Commences Operations by Discharging 10,000 Men.

A special from St. Louis says: It was learned here today that the first official act of the American Harvester Company of Illinois, a consolidation of eighteen harvester companies of the United States, with headquarters in Chicago, will discharge about 10,000 employees, whose services are rendered unnecessary by the consolidation of eighteen separate and distinct companies into one monopoly. Ten million dollars per annum is expected to be saved in wages through this consolidation. This is made possible by the fact that under the consolidated management the output of harvest machinery will be limited to the great plants whose brands are standard all over the world, and that most small plants will be shut down. The Minneapolis company, it is said, has already shut down and discharged its force, and after January 1st many others will follow suit. The new monopoly, which controls the output of harvesting machinery of the United States, has a capital of \$35,000,000. It is incorporated under the laws of Illinois, the incorporators being Cyrus H. McCormick, William Deering, Walter A. Wood, George A. S. Bushnell, and A. L. Conger. Cyrus H. McCormick is president of the consolidated company, Walter A. Wood is vice-president and A. L. Conger is general manager.

NOTICE.

To whom it may concern: Notice is hereby given that I will pay no bills contracted by George D. Ficklin, 1-8-91. N. F. FICKLIN.

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