

Here Will the Press the People's Rights Maintain.

VOL VIII.

UNION, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1891.

NO. 28.

THE COVE.

The Paradise of Union County.

HISTORY OF EARLY SETTLERS.

Old Land Marks—Educational Center—Agricultural and Horticultural Pursuits.

Nestled among the foothills in the extreme east side of Grande Ronde valley, 19 miles east from La Grande, 5 miles north-east from Union, the county seat of Union county, is the beautiful and picturesque settlement of the Cove. Its altitude is 2,664 feet above sea level; it comprises four townships of land, consequently contains 92,160 acres, about 45,000 acres of which is the very best quality of agricultural lands, the residue, grazing and pasture lands.

PIONEER SETTLERS.

In the winter of 1861 and '62 a lone mountaineer, whose history was truly romantic, and who was pleased to call himself "Mike Bush," was the sole occupant of the Cove. The writer found him, the fall of 1862, living in a rude stone shelter immediately south of the subsequent residence of S. G. French, a short time after which he left for the Snake river mountains, since which time he has never reappeared.

The fall of 1862 was the advent of a large emigration to the Cove, principally from Iowa. I regret that I cannot call to mind the names of all the pioneers of 1862, however, among them were S. G. French, A. C. Smith, Dr. Stockton, Seaberger, R. A. Robinson, Edward Payne, Jacob Conner, Cyrus Barnes, S. D. Cowles, the Blooms, the Babingtons, the Hendershotts, and many others the writer cannot recall. Many of the old pioneers remain, some have drifted to other parts of the country, and some have passed beyond the grave.

Robinson and Edward Payne, who were excellent citizens, located the first claims in the Cove, their locations being made on October 3, 1862. Mr. Robinson is still with us; Mr. Payne, some sixteen years ago, succumbed to the grim monster.

OLD LAND MARKS.

Among the old land marks which should be held sacred is "Owenby's Point" which is situated on the north side of Cove prairie, at the foot of which now lies the remains of the old pioneer, Father Owenby; "Hendershott's Point" at the south and "Mt. Fanny" at the east.

In the year 1865, M. C. Israel of Union, J. W. Smith, Mrs. Fannie J. Pauling, now Mrs. E. P. McDaniel, and Minerva H.

EDUCATIONAL.

The Cove has for years been considered an educational center. We have in the village of Cove one district school with an attendance of one hundred scholars, with Miss Collins as principal and Mrs. S. Corpe as assistant, both very thorough teachers. We have, also, two sectarian schools under the auspices of the Episcopal denomination.

Ascension school, a day and boarding school for young ladies, is situated on the old home of Mr. S. G. French, who very generously bequeathed the grounds for the education of young ladies. A more beautiful location would be hard to find. The buildings are large and commodious upon an elevated spot, a beautiful lawn surrounded by lovely shade trees. Adjacent is a large orchard containing all varieties of fruit grown in Oregon. The school is under the supervision of Miss B. H. Boocock of Virginia, assisted by Mrs. A. Rooney, who uses every effort to make the school a success.

Leighton Academy, a boarding school for young men is under the skillful management of Rev. Mr. Rooney. Aside from the schools mentioned, we have in the precinct three other district schools, Shangi, Frosty and Kendall, all doing good work and in charge of lady teachers.

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

We have three denominational religious organizations in Cove, the Episcopalians, who have a beautiful house of worship—the Baptists, who have about completed a very handsome structure—the Methodists, who hold services in the Universal church. Each organization is trying to ameliorate the human family, and I trust will succeed. We have a very flourishing lodge of A. F. & A. M.

SOCIETY.

There are few places on the coast where society in the main, is superior to that of the Cove, the citizens are peaceable, are moral and are Christians. Anyone can be religious, but it is not everyone that is religious that is a Christian, they are industrious, sober, attend to their own affairs, neither do they ever turn a deaf ear to the wants of the worthy poor, if that is not the quintessence of Christianity, the Bible is a mistake. "It is true we have a few, very few, undesirable citizens, but in a short time, when they become better acquainted, thoroughly acclimated and get that acedious out of their system they will improve rapidly and become worthy citizens.

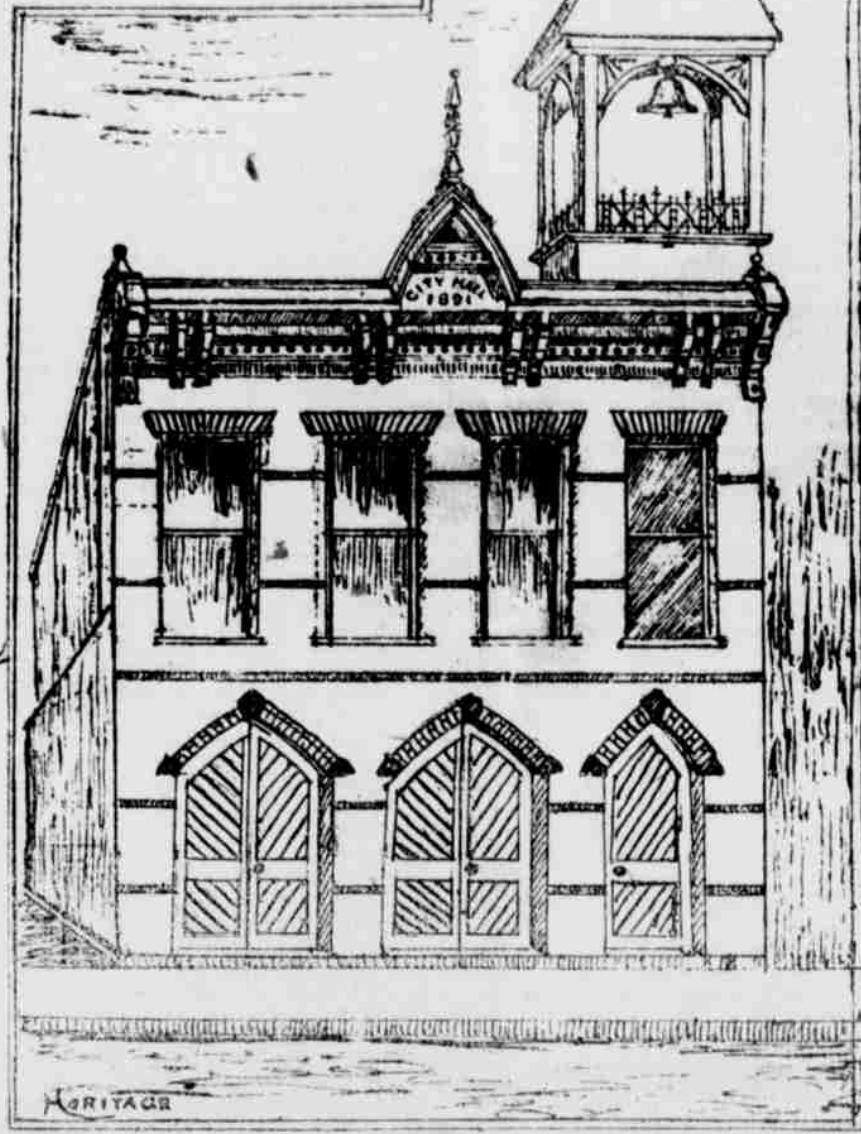
How much better it would be for a community were all to observe the golden rule, the burdens of life would be borne with more patience, the sorrows of life would be sweetened, and changed to joy, the pleasures of life would be a foretaste of heaven if we would only follow that precept.

BUSINESS INDUSTRIES.

We have in the village of Cove 200 inhabitants. One general merchandise establishment owned by E. P. McDaniel & sons,

Apples, pears, peaches, cherries, nectarines, prunes, plums and all other varieties of fruit grown in this latitude grow to perfection and as for berries of all varieties, also tomatoes, vines of all kinds yield astonishingly. It is quite difficult even to approximate the amount of fruit produced in a single season. There were five fruit-driers in constant use during the season.

There is no place in the United States where prunes can be grown so abundantly and cheaply as in the Cove, and any one who will plant an Italian prune orchard and attend to it, lays the foundation for a fortune. The Hon. J. L. Rusk, secretary of agriculture of the United States, is authority for the fact that last year two



CITY HALL, UNION, OREGON.

Americans paid to foreign fruit-growers \$20,000,000 for fruit and nuts we imported. No one need fear over-production as our will equal any imported fruit. The day is not far distant when the value of fruit produced in the Cove will exceed any product of the soil.

CLIMATE, HEALTH, PRICE OF LAND.

Owing to the fact that the foothills on the south of the Cove project some three miles into the valley, we are sheltered from many of the rude blasts of winter that prevail in other parts of the valley.

The health, as is the case throughout Eastern Oregon, is remarkably good. No malaria, no cholera and fever—in fact, if one does not abuse the laws of nature they never get sick, unless they brought the germ of the disease with them.

Whilst a very large portion of the inhabitants of the Cove are contented to spend the remainder of their days here, there are some restless spirits who are willing to dispose of their farms that they may be able to migrate to some less civilized country, where their uncouth natures may be untrammelled—free to think and act as their untutored natures may suggest.

Farm lands vary in price. It depends upon location, improvements, etc. From \$5 to \$10 per acre is the ruling price.

COST-LIFE.

In conclusion, let me say to the many readers of The Scout that if they are not prospering as they should where they are, and wish to come to what we believe to be one of the best countries on the Pacific slope, come to the Cove. This country is but in its infancy. No one, unless he has witnessed the marvellous change that have taken place in the last quarter of a century, can give an accurate conception of the possibilities in store for it in the future.

Now, wishing yourself, the many readers of The Scout, in fact the entire Nation a Happy Christmas and a Merry New Year, I am, Respectfully Yours,
JAMES HENDERSON,
Cove, Union county, Or., Dec. 24, 1891.

STAVEL & WALKER.

The attention of our readers is called to the unique mammoth advertisement of Messrs. Stavel & Walker, in this issue, as it sets forth a few facts that are not to be gainsaid, as there is no doubt of the fact that their having introduced into this country a full and complete line of machinery perfectly adapted to the soil, weather, conditions and the climate of our country, has had much to do with the prosperity of the county, as soil properly prepared, seed properly sown, and grain properly harvested, and threshed with proper machinery, will not only greatly increase the crop, but will enhance its value in the market to a remarkable extent. This fact the farmers are beginning to take into consideration which probably accounts in a measure for the large trade done by Stavel & Walker in the county and in fact in the entire northwest, wherever they have a branch house. They are the leaders in their line, and it is certainly a matter of pride to them that they have succeeded by years of hard

practical work in getting together so fine a line of goods, and goods so well adapted to the different sections of the country, they have done by studying the requirements of the different localities and then seeing that the proper improvements were made to meet the demand.

Stavel & Walker have shown themselves interested in the country in which they do business as every enterprise tending to the upbuilding of the resources of this county has received their hearty support and influence, and that the people of the county appreciate this fact, is evidenced by the large patronage they have accorded this house.

Their business in this county is conducted under the management of Mr. J. W. Whann, a gentleman of large experience in this line of business, and whose maxim seems to be, a well assorted stock of machinery adapted to the wants of the country, highest quality of material used in their construction, reasonable prices, and a fair and honorable treatment to each and everybody, which has brought him a large and increasing volume of business.

Stavel & Walker have branch houses at every important business center in the northwest and we doubt if there is a firm in the United States, or in fact in the world, who carry under one roof so large and complete an assortment of farm machinery, vehicles, engines, boilers, planing mill machinery, single mills, etc.

THE DEPOT HOTEL.

This popular house is located at the base of the hill just opposite the depot. A. C. Craig, the proprietor, is one of the pioneers of Union county, having held many offices of public trust, including sheriff and judge. The Depot hotel is a large and commodious building. The west bound morning train stops here for breakfast, and the hotel receives a goodly share of patronage from the traveling public. About a quarter of a mile above the hotel is a boiling spring of mineral water with great health restoring powers. The water from this spring is conveyed to the hotel through pipes and is used for domestic and bathing purposes. Mr. Craig has several good bath rooms fitted up for the accommodation of the public. People from all sections visit this place for their health. The water contains iron, sulphur, magnesia and other health restoring properties.

THE BLUE LIGHT SALOON.

This popular resort was opened in this city about a year ago by Messrs. Johnson & Woodard, who are now located in the Remillard building on Main street. They carry the best brands of liquors and cigars, and have a billiard and pool table for the accommodation of customers. To those inclined to indulge in something for the "latter man" or engage in a social game, no better place of resort will be found than the "Blue Light."

ILLUSTRATIONS.

Some of Our Solid Business Houses.

TWO BEAUTIFUL RESIDENCES.

The Court House and City Hall, Wilson's Block, Levy's Store and Other Structures.

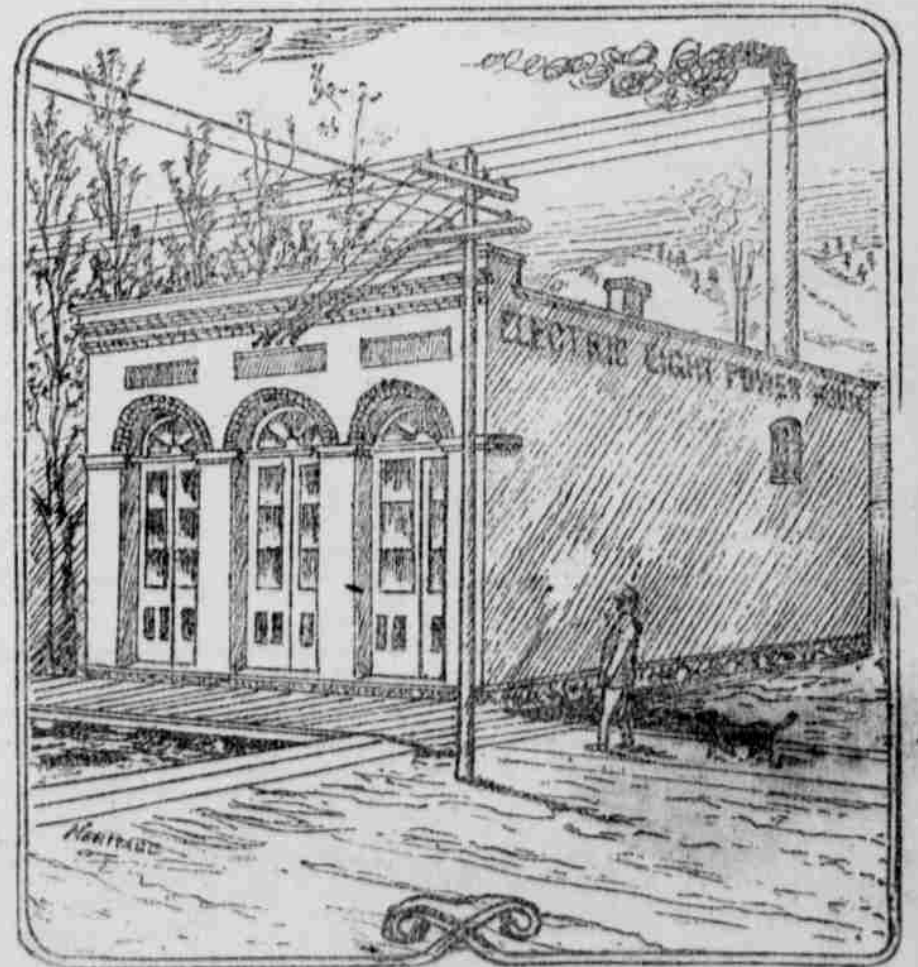
WILSON'S BLOCK.

This is the most substantial and finest looking building in Union county. The construction of the building was commenced during the summer of 1890 and was finished ready for occupancy in February last. It is a two-story brick, with basement, constructed of the best of material throughout, and hard finished on the inside. It is ornamented on the outside with galvanized iron cornice and has an iron front with large plate-glass windows. The building, as it now stands, cost about \$10,000. Mr. S. L. Hunter, the architect and contractor, is a first-class workman and has built many of the substantial structures in this city, and elsewhere. The lower story of the building is occupied by Mr. Wilson for his saloon, the "Cornucopia," one of the finest in Eastern Oregon. The upper story is divided into ten large, airy rooms, fitted up in the best shape for sleeping apartments, each room being carpeted and supplied with complete bedroom sets.

Mr. Wilson is one of our most prominent and prosperous citizens and is deserving of much credit for his work in assisting to build up our town by his substantial improvements and liberal donations to all public enterprises, as well as to charitable purposes.

SUMMERS & LAYNE.

About two years ago Mr. J. C. Summers and Mr. Dave Layne, two of our enterprising citizens, associated themselves together under the above firm name, for the purpose of engaging in the stove, tin and hardware business. Such an establishment was greatly needed and Messrs. Summers & Layne have built up a nice business in their line. The firm now occupy the fire-proof brick, adjoining Jaycox's store, a cut of which will be seen elsewhere. Mr. Summers is an experienced tinner and first-class workman. Parties desiring work in this line can always rely upon having it done in the very best manner. Besides a large



ELECTRIC LIGHT POWER HOUSE, UNION, OR.

stock of hardware, granite-iron ware, wooden ware, etc., they carry shell hardware, cutlery, and in fact everything in the hardware line. This firm is sole agent for the Charter Oak stoves and ranges, a large and varied stock of which will always be found at their store, also the latest designs in parlor and heating stoves.

ADOLPH LEVY.

The pioneer merchant of Union, carries one of the largest and best selected stocks of general merchandise to be found in the county. It is a common occurrence for parties in search of goods, when they have failed to find the desired article elsewhere, to remark: "Well I am sure I can find it at Levy's," for he carries everything." This fact being generally known has caused him to gain a large trade among our farmers and miners, which he justly deserves. In his store will be found everything needed by the farmer, miner and stockman, and for sale at reasonable rates. Mr. Levy has been in business here for a number of years, during which time he has purchased the fine and substantial store building herein illustrated, besides a fine dwelling on the corner of Second and C streets, where he resides.

S. C. MILLER.

our furniture dealer, is a young man born and raised in Union county. About two years ago he bought out the furniture store in this city, then owned by P. B. Wilson and Arthur Miller. He has added a large stock until today he has the finest store of that kind in Union county. Besides his fine stock of all kinds of furniture, carpets, blinds and picture frames on exhibition at his salesroom, he has a large amount of goods stored in his warehouse near the bridge, including sash, doors, blinds, mattresses, chairs, moulding, bedding, etc. He is selling goods very cheap and in consequence has built up a good and paying trade from all parts of the county. In fact he comes near supplying the entire county with goods in his line. He is a pleasant and agreeable gentleman, with whom every one likes to trade.

J. M. PHY'S RESIDENCE.

This beautiful residence was purchased from Henry Striker a short time ago by Mr. Phy who has fitted it up in fine shape for himself and children, who now reside in this city. Mr. Phy also has a nice house on his farm four miles north of town. Since purchasing the Striker property Mr. Phy has made many improvements, both the inside and outside of the house having been thoroughly overhauled, additions built on, and the house papered and painted throughout. The yard has also been beautified by the addition of new fence, cement sidewalks, etc. Mr. Phy has one of the finest residences in Union.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT POWER HOUSE.

This substantial brick building is also owned by Mr. J. M. Phy, who lately purchased it from Henry Striker. At the time the sketch of this building was made it was the intention of Messrs. Shelton & Phy, who own the electric light plant of this city to have the same located in this building, but have since changed their mind and have erected a temporary building for that purpose on A street, where a piece of ground has been purchased. It is their intention to erect a substantial brick power-house next spring. Mr. Phy is one of our most substantial and enterprising citizens and has lately acquired much valuable property in our city.

M. S. WARREN'S RESIDENCE.

about a quarter of a mile west of Union, is built upon a fine block of ground, and is surrounded by a fine growth of shade trees and shrubbery, making it a very inviting and pleasant place of abode. Mr. and Mrs.

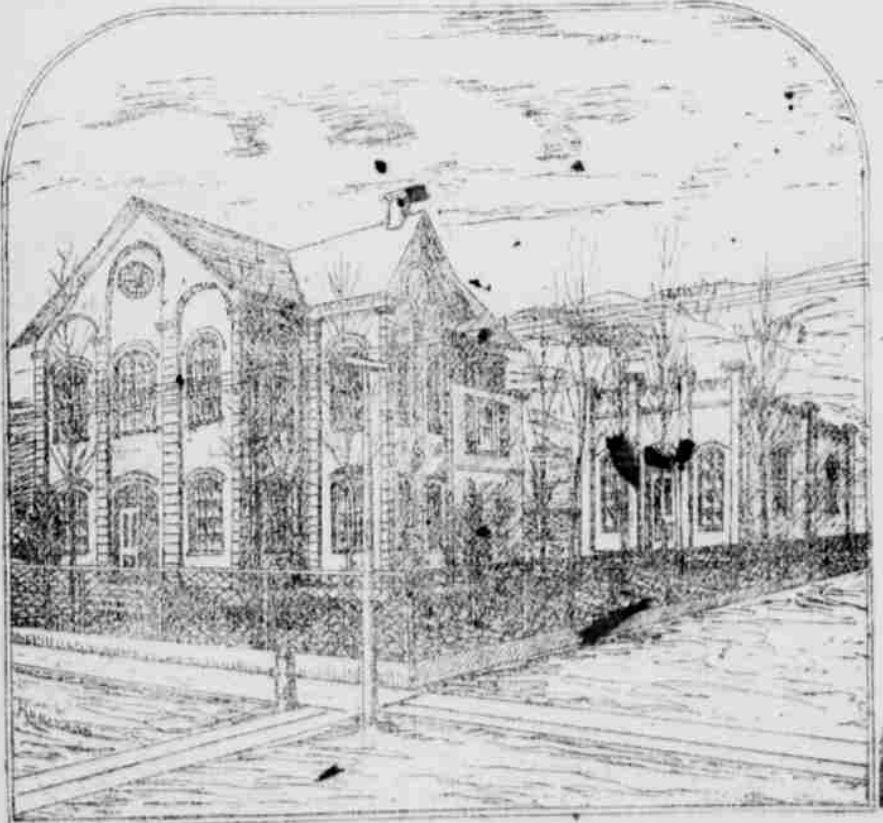
Warren have acquired considerable of this world's goods, and have built a good and substantial home in this city, where they might rear their family and take advantage of our school facilities.

THE CITY HALL.

On our first page will be found a picture of this magnificent and substantial structure, now nearly completed. It is a two-story brick, built at a cost to the city of about \$6,000. The lower story is provided with a city jail and a room for storing the fire apparatus of the city. The upper story is divided into offices for mayor, recorder and marshal, also a large council chamber, with a fire-proof vault in one corner for the safe keeping of city records.

THE KENTUCKY LIQUOR STORE.

now owned by A. Wood & Co., is an old established house where the public will always find the choicest wines, liquors and cigars. This is a neat and orderly establishment on the corner of Main and B streets. Messrs. Wood & Co. are sole agents for the celebrated Jesse Moore brand of liquors. They also have good club rooms and a fine billiard table for the accommodation of their customers.



COURT HOUSE AND JAIL, UNION, OREGON.

Hendershott, now Mrs. J. B. Eaton, made the ascent of the mountains, which is 2,664 feet above sea level, upon which resided the party christened "Mr. Fanny."

To me, mountains hold a sacred and sublime prominence in glorious imagery. They stand up in silent and as if testimony to the greatness and power of the Great Creator. Whether rising in solitary majesty from the bosom of wide-extended plain, or piled up as a separate wall through the length of a whole continent; whether beching angry flames from their summits; or soaring aloft snow-capped to untrodden heights, where eternal winter dwells, in every aspect and in every form mountains are the fit representatives of everything greatest and mightiest in the material world.

SETTLERS.

Notwithstanding the sublime conception one may entertain in regard to the marvelous handiwork of the Deity, he who views the magnificent scenery of the Cove is lost in utter astonishment. The foothills are densely covered with fir, pine, tanbark, cedar, birch and other varieties of timber. Coursing down the slope into the valley are scores of spring branches, some cold, some hot. It is a sight beyond description to see them leaping, plunging, bubbling down the hillsides, all seeming to vie with each other for speed, and singing as with the voice, Hallelujah to their Creator, passing on until lost in eternity of waters. I envy no man that can witness such a grand spectacle and not feel grateful to the giver of such magnificent gifts.