

THE Boers are proving themselves a valiant and aggressive foe to the British in South Africa. Gen. Wisecrow found this out the first of this week, after he had lost 600 men. But our neighbors, the British, are no less persistent, but the war will be prolonged beyond the limit of time in which the pessimistic Britisher expected it would end.

EASTERN voters are advocating the use of voting machines. How often here in Oregon are the election boards compelled to reject defective ballots. By the use of voting machines every man's vote is counted, the result is obtained at once, as soon as the polls are closed. The chances of fraud are minimized and "tissue ballots" are a thing of the past.

SUCH former rampant silver papers as the Spokane Review and Salt Lake Tribune take particular pains to commend the president's message. The Review, however, notes its disapproval of the president's remarks concerning "bimetallism," but adds that in view of the position of the republican party on the money question, it was what was expected. But few of the "silver republican" papers of the West are worrying over the financial question, but all are advocating the president's policy on the Philippine matter. None are more positive and sound upon this great subject than the two papers mentioned. The Tribune is again in the ranks of the republican party and in time the Review will take a similar step.

**AT PUBLIC EXPENSE.**

The Oregonian is often criticized by part of the press and people of Oregon because the independent assertion of its individual opinions displeases some. It is ever thus with men and papers of opinions. But the majority of the people of Oregon must heartily agree with the Oregonian's expressions regarding the proceedings to oust Mayor Storey, of Portland, recently ended in favor of the mayor, who succeeded the late W. S. Mason by vote of the council of the city of Portland.

The Oregonian says: "The attempt to question the legality of the election of Mayor Storey was silly. It was one more abuse to appeal to the courts, at expense of the public, of which many are found. It may be true that Storey's election was compassed by a sharp bit of political practice, but it was at least as creditable as the average transactions of politics and more so than most."

**BEAUTIFY THE HOME.**

In western and southern Oregon, with such favorable conditions for tree growth, there should be no home without its quota of ornamental trees and shrubs, affording protection from winds and storms and adding beauty to the surroundings.

No other state in the union is so blessed with soil, climate and native tree growth as is ours, and yet the people over nine-tenths of the older settled portions have neglected to surround the home with the ameliorating influences of trees and shrubs.

At this season of the year when little can be done afield, the farmer in particular, should procure from the adjacent forest small specimens of our native trees and shrubs and plant them about the house and other buildings. Deciduous trees and shrubs planted at this season of the year will, with ordinary care, pass through the following summer, thrifty; while evergreen trees and shrubs if planted in April, or better perhaps, for southern Oregon, in March, will hold their own if not too large when removed from their native home. When getting these specimens from the forest it is best so far as possible to dig up plants that stand alone. Trees and shrubs that have grown from germination up, in the midst of others suffer most on being transplanted to the open space about buildings.

It should be known to all our home builders that it is not necessary to import any trees or plants to make our home surroundings pleasant, inviting, attractive and really home like. Oregon native trees and shrubs are quite equal to the demand, although on the more elaborate grounds foreign specimens are very desirable.

Of our own trees and shrubs the noble fir, the red and white fir, the spruces, the chittim, ash, maples, chinquapin, madrone, cherry, ceanothus, arrowwood, indian peach, alder, service berry, rhododendron, spicewood, furnish enough variety in size, color form, leafage and seasonal variations to render any of our rural homes delightful places, providing a little care is given to such trees as may be planted for the first few years of their life in the plantation.

When once they get hold of the soil, their vigor is assured and nothing is so desirable in a tree as health and vigor, the two qualities that play so large a part in making a tree beautiful.—Oregon Agricultural College and Experiment Station.

**DESIRABLE RECIPROCITY.**

The large number of bills introduced by Senator McBride and the considerable though less number offered by Representative Tongue may serve to remind us how great is the opportunity for the government to serve the national justice and welfare in this part of the world, says Saturday's Oregonian. Inauguration of a new era on the Pacific has made necessary a great deal of government work in all these Pacific coast states. The Oregon members will be called upon to urge upon the attention of congress:

A naval station on the Columbia river.  
A drydock at Astoria.  
Extension of the jetty at the mouth of the Columbia.

Adequate improvements of the river channel from Portland to the sea.

Inauguration of the improvement of the dalles of the Columbia.

Prompt completion of the custom-house and enlargement of the postoffice at Portland.

Assay offices at Portland and Baker City.

Reimbursement of the state's Indian war expenditures.

Such additions to the navy as will give Portland more warships to build.

Equitable distribution of the purchase and shipment of government supplies for the Philippines (largely an administrative matter.)

Continued improvement of the rivers and harbors of the interior and coast.

Perfection of the coast defenses at the mouth of the Columbia river and their equipment with an adequate force for their care and use.

The republican party is in full control of congress and the presidency. Its leaders are holding party councils on matters of importance. It will be responsible for the legislation enacted and it has the power corresponding to that responsibility.

What Oregon asks of the republican congress she is entitled to. Her quota in senate and house filled, filled with republicans. Her support has been given in troops and in ballots to the administration's policies. Her voice will be for gold standard. Such silver men as she had in congress have been either removed or reformed. In the fifty-fifth congress only twenty-four senators had the courage to declare that our national obligations are payable in gold, and one of the twenty-four was Oregon's single senator There would have been twenty-five if the senate had received the man we sent there. The Oregon delegation in both houses of congress will vote for the gold standard and for currency reform.

And they will vote for retention of the Philippines, and assertion of our power in the Pacific. The two measures on which the issues next year will be made up, currency reform and Pacific expansion, will be unanimously supported by the Oregon delegation.

In return for this Oregon asks no alms or special favors. We want no bounties on our sugar, no subsidies for shipyards. But we want the nation to look after its interests here. Its business must be housed, its commerce protected, its great waterways opened, its navy built and provided with means of shelter and repair. This is the government's business in Oregon. It is not a cause to which the government or the party in power can afford to turn a deaf ear.

Will the republicans in congress kindly bear in mind that there is an election in Oregon in June, 1900.

**MANY PRISONERS TAKEN.**

President Styn Sends Details of the Fight at Stormberg.

PRERORIA, Sunday.—President Styn sent the following details of the fight at Stormberg:  
"British with six cannon, attacked Boers under Swanepool and Oliver and stormed the Boer's positions. After a severe fight they were compelled to surrender. The prisoners are Major Sturges, six officers, 230 non-commissioned officers and men of the Northumberland, and two officers, 250 non-commissioned officers and men of the Irish fusiliers. It is impossible to state the number of dead and wounded British. The Boers captured three cannon and two ammunition wagons."

LONDON, Dec. 15.—Almost complete absence of news from the theater of war increases public anxiety. Scanty messages seem to indicate that preparations are about completed for simultaneous attacks on Tugla River and Modder River. There is no confirmation to the report of another battle at Modder River Monday. News reached here from Boer sources, that the Waschbank bridge was damaged. There is great indignation in England at the ignorance of the British intelligence bureau in displaying its estimate of the Boers strength in Cape Colony. Experts aver that 15,000 Boers have to be driven out of the colony before the passage of Orange river can be commenced.

LONDON, Dec. 12.—The war office has received the following:

Cape Town—Gatsers reports as follows: "The idea to attack Stormberg seemed to promise certain success, but the distance was underestimated by myself and local guides. We were marching from 9:30 p. m. until 4 a. m. and were laded in an impossible position. I do not consider the error intentional. I collected and withdrew my force from ridge to ridge for about nine miles. The Boer guns were remarkably well served. They carried accurately 5000 yards. The missing Northumberland number 866."

**LOST ON TURKEYS.**

speculators Bought at 14 Cents Live, and Sold at 12 1/2 Cents Dressed.

Southern Oregon turkey buyers lost \$5000 by taking their birds to the San Francisco market for the Thanksgiving trade. There are now in cold storage in San Francisco from 50 to 60 tons of fine, young Southern Oregon turkeys, dressed, and an effort will be made to work them off during the holiday trade.

One man, a Mr. Young, of Oakland, lost nearly \$2000, it is said. He bought turkeys at 14 cents per pound, live, and took a carload and a half to San Francisco. After paying for freight and picking he was obliged to sell at 12 1/2 cts dressed.

Whether the cold storage stock can be sold for Christmas dinners remains to be seen, but it is reported that there will be a glut of turkeys on the market for Christmas and New Year's. This is also expected to be the case locally, as turkeys are now coming in in large amounts, both live and dressed. A fairly good price is asked—12 1/2 cts live, and up to 18 cents dressed. The Willamette valley did not supply much of the Thanksgiving trade, but is sending in the birds that reach market now.—Telegram.

**ARTESIAN WATER.**

In boring for coal at The Dalles a strong flow of artesian water was struck. Encouraged by this strike, the city authorities of that town now propose to bore for water on the hill back of the town for purposes of supplying water for domestic and city purposes. The city has had in contemplation the putting in of a pipe line at a cost of \$25,000, but the prospects for artesian water are so good that the pipe line project has been dropped for the time being and that of artesian water taken up. It is confidently asserted by those who are more or less conversant with such things that artesian water could be obtained around Pendleton at a depth of 1200 to 1500 feet. It would probably cost \$15,000 to \$20,000 to bore such a hole in the ground, but if water was struck in any quantity it would be worth every cent of \$250,000 to Pendleton alone and millions to the country surrounding.—East Oregonian.

**COUGARS VERSUS DEER.**

"Cougars are doing more to decimate the deer population of this state than all the sportsmen combined," declared an old hunter this morning. "During the month of September I found the carcasses of five deer which had been killed by these animals. The cougar, after catching its victim, seizes itself on the blood and then covers the body, just as a cat covers a mouse. Should the cougar fail to secure another meal about eating time it will return to the concealed carcass and feast on it. Besides cougars, bears are very destructive. Not wild animals alone are prey to these wanderers; the farmers are suffering as well. Bears or cougars frequently swoop down on a hogpen and carry off or kill a pig, and calves and young stock are not safe. In my opinion a high bounty should be placed on these beasts and sportsmen permitted to hunt them down with dogs. The reason dogs are not used at present is that the dogs might find the tracks of a deer and run him down instead of a cougar, and hunting deer with dogs is strictly prohibited by the game law."

**Spain's Greatest Need.**

Mr. R. P. Oliver, of Barcelona, Spain, spends his winters in Aiken, S. C. Weak nerves had caused severe pains in the back of his head. On using Electric Bitters, America's greatest blood and nerve remedy, all pain soon left him. He says this grand medicine is what his country needs. All America knows that it cures liver and kidney troubles, purifies the blood, tones up the stomach, strengthens the nerves, puts vim, vigor and new life into every muscle, nerve and organ of the body. If weak, tired or ailing you need it. Every bottle guaranteed, only 50 cents. Sold by Sleecum Drug Co.

**Our Third Special Sale**

Our former special sales of Capes, Jackets and Fascinators have proven unexpectedly popular and this week we supplement them with a

**Special Mackintosh Sale**

We haven't a very large stock this season's stuff, with the exception of a few men's mackintoshes, and we are going to clean them out at special bargain prices.

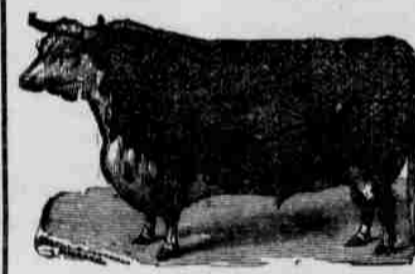
- A Misses' brown mackintosh with cape, length 44 to 50 inches, double texture, velvet inlaid collar, \$3, now \$2.50
- A ladies' mackintosh with cape and velvet collar, solid colors, navy blue and black, lengths, 58 to 62 inches, \$3.50 2.75
- Men's black tricet mackintoshes with capes at the very low price of 1.75
- Men's heavy, tan colored, all wool, lined mackintoshes, cut in box coat style, silk velvet collar, were \$5.50, now 4.50

**Our 'Xmas Stock**

Is opened up and you will find it surpasses them all in the matter of price. Because they are Christmas goods is not a good and sufficient reason for asking double prices. Look them over.

**You can Save Money.**

**Minor & Co.,**  
**Heppner, Oregon.**



**Fresh Meats**

- Salt and Smoked Meats
- Pure Rendered Leaf Lard
- Fish every Friday.
- Liberty Market

Highest price paid for fat Stock.

**Bock & Mathews,**

Proprietors.

**GRANT COUNTY NEWS.**

**Blue Mountain Eagle.**  
Clarence Johnson, of John Day, has bought the Cobb hotel property in that city of Mrs. Ollie Hinesch. The consideration was \$2500.

W. C. Brown started last week for Grant county, to gather three carloads of horses which he will ship East in December.—Arlington Advocate.

D. W. Morrow pulled in from Heppner Thursday of last week with 6500 pounds of freight for business men of this city. He will leave for Heppner tomorrow after another load.

The Thanksgiving entertainment and ball given at Monument for the benefit of the school was a success financially. The entertainment was complimented very highly by those present as being the very best ever given in that city.

M. M. Briscoe and James Grace came up from Monument Sunday and returned home Monday. Mr. Grace was suffering from an injury he received Thanksgiving day, being kicked by a horse, and came up for medical treatment.

The Eagle is in receipt of a letter from Walter Brown, formerly a resident of Canyon City. He is at present located at Redlands, California. That section he describes as the center of the orange orchards of Southern California, and that there will be shipped from that place fully 15 carloads of oranges, which is estimated to be about one-fifth of the entire orange crop of California.

The supreme court of California has rendered a decision that is very important to sheep raisers generally. B. L. Bordwode gave a chattel mortgage on a band of sheep in Kern county, the mortgage to cover the "increase thereof." The mortgagor sheared the sheep and the mortgagee claimed the wool. Suit was brought for its recovery, but the lower court ruled against the mortgagee. An appeal to the supreme court resulted in affirming of the lower court.

Samuel Duff, one of the early pioneers of the Pacific coast, and for years a resident of Desolation creek, died at his home in that locality last Friday, his burial taking place the next day. The cause of his death was cancer of the throat. Mr. Duff was past the mark of three score years and ten, and came to the Pacific coast in the year 1849, since which time his attention has been given to mining and prospecting. He has resided on Desolation creek, in this county, since 1884.

The Eagle knows of one rancher in Northern Grant who is never bothered by outside shepherds, although he lives in the country through which they pass to reach the Greenhorn range. When they stop on the range surrounding his ranch, he goes out to the band every day and, in the presence of the herder, selects the best mutton in the band. This he does every day, in spite of the protests of the herder. He tells them that he is not going to use powder and lead because they stopped on his range, but he expects to come and get a mutton every day that they remain near him. At the present price of sheep, he seldom has an opportunity to visit the band but a few times until they seek other quarters.

**PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM.**  
Cleanses and beautifies the hair. Promotes its growth. Never falls out. Keeps the scalp cool. Cleans the scalp. A hair dressing. 50c and \$1.00 at drug stores.

**Drugs**

The largest and best selected stock in Morrow county.

**Paints, Oils**

and Glass  
A full stock.

**Jewelry**

A fine stock to select from.

**Kodaks**

Supplies of all kinds.

**Stationery**

The very latest.

**CONSER & WARREN.**

**GOLD GOLD GOLD**

You can save it by trading with

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Who carry a COMPLETE LINE

Of Heavy and Shelf Hardware, Graniteware, Tinware, Agricultural Implements, Wagons, Hacks, Etc., Paints and Oils (the best in the world), Crockery and Glaseware.

Give us the cash and you can get as good and as many goods from us as you can get laid down in Heppner from any where. This we guarantee.

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(Successors to Hort Bros.)

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We manufacture our Taffies, Caromels, Creams, Nut Candies, Etc.

They are always fresh.

Fresh Oysters served at all hours.

Full line of Lunch Goods, Fruits, Stationery, Cigars and Tobaccos.

**Christmas Goods**

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Chinaware  
Leather Goods

Purses

\*Xmas Candies  
\*Xmas Goods of all kinds

- Pocket Books
- Toilet Cases
- All kinds of leather goods
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"NAME ON EVERY PIECE."

**LOWNEY'S  
Chocolate Bonbons.**

FOR SALE BY  
**Patterson & Son.**

Photographers' supplies of all kinds. Dark room in rear of store free to all amateur photographers. Call and investigate.

**PATTERSON & SON,**  
Up-to-date Druggists.

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**The Heppner Flouring Mill Company**

Have perfected arrangements to run the mill permanently. They have secured the services of a first class miller, and wheat sufficient to make and keep on hand a permanent supply of

**Flour, Graham, Cerm Meal, Whole Wheat, Bran and Shorts**

Of the very best quality and guaranteed to give satisfaction.

We are here to buy wheat and exchange with the farmers, and solicit their patronage.

**When Wheat is depressed**

Prepare for a reaction by concentrating your grain with

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at tidewater. If you are not fully posted about the advantage of the offer, drop us a line and we will explain.

**The Mutual Warehouse Co.**  
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All kinds of laundry work done first class.

Special rates on family washing.

**White Shirts a Specialty**

Washing without ironing 3/4 cents per pound.

Steady customers, 3 c's per pound.

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Cash on delivery.