

Weston Weekly Leader.

FRIDAY, JULY 17, 1885.

ABOUT \$600,000 per month is paid out to government officials in Washington, exclusive of the expenses of the District of Columbia.

THE San Francisco mint furnishes 150 persons with the means of obtaining a livelihood, and 1500 applications have been sent in for these places.

THE Oregonian stirred up a hornet's nest when it pitched into the News. The News is getting the best of the fight and is showing up the Oregonian in its true light.

HARBOUR of Walla Walla has sent in his resignation as Deputy Collector. All is not smooth sailing with official-seekers, and Whitaker evidently wants only the "true blue."

THIS is certainly a very discouraging time for Republicans, still it is a matter of astonishment to learn that the chairman of the Republican State Committee of Louisiana has committed suicide.

MALCOLM HAY, First Assistant Postmaster General, has resigned on account of sickness, and ex-Congressman Stevenson of Illinois has been appointed in his stead. The new appointment is spoken of as an excellent one.

THE wheat crop of Kansas will be a complete failure this year. McPherson, the banner wheat county of the State, which has produced three million bushels a year for two years past, will not have one-fifth that amount this season.

THE Indian scare in Western Kansas and the Indian Territory is abating. With the arrival of troops at Fort Reno, and the knowledge that there are on the route, the refractory Chayennes are beginning to quail, while fear of punishment for past misdeeds become more prominent than the disposition lately manifested to go on the war path. The prompt measures taken by the war department have no doubt obviated all danger of an Indian war.

SOME very small-minded newspapers are snarling and some still smaller-minded ones are copying their snarls—because after President Cleveland had sold the government cargoes at the White House and turned the money into the public treasury, he saw fit to purchase new ones, paying for them out of his own pocket. One conspicuous difference between Democratic and Republican officials at Washington is that the former always pay their own bills, while the latter frequently depend upon a confiding public.

THE superfluous government employes are going out as well as the rascals. On the last day of the last quarter 119 of the employes of the bureau of engraving and printing were notified that their services would be no longer required. They were not turned out to make room for Democrats, but simply because the special examiners detailed by Secretary Manning to investigate that matter had reported that their services could be dispensed with without detriment to the service. It was the Republican policy all ways to make sinecures of public position, and multiply them unnecessarily for the sake of rewarding party workers. All this is changed now, and the government is being administered on business methods.

ON being informed lately that a man he had just appointed was a good Democrat and faithful worker for the party, President Cleveland said to the Congressman who volunteered that information: "All right, I have reason to hope that he will be a capable and honest man in the place, but if you are his friend you'd better warn him that if I catch him misusing that place in any way for party purposes, I'll remove him as quick as lightning—just as quick as I'd remove a Republican for doing the same. I will not have it. Tell him to remember that." This remark throws a good deal of light on the President's character and shows the sturdy honesty with which he has set about reforming the abuses of a generation. He is not a changing or a hyphenite. He regards public office as a public trust, and not as a party perquisite, and he will impress that view by the force of his character and conduct upon government officials in every rank. He means what he says. He keeps his word; and his careful, prudent conservative administration of the great trust reposed upon him, in the interest of the whole people, will insure the predominance of the party which he represents for the next quarter of a century.

THERE are in this state 80,018 persons eligible to draw public school money, an increase of 6,151 over last year; 41,000 are males, 39,918 are females. The average daily attendance in the schools during the year was 31,005. The average number of months taught is four and three-fourths. There are 1,335 school districts, in which are employed 1,701 teachers. 4,400 pupils are in private schools. The value of the public school grounds, apparatus, etc., is \$1,150,433.14. Average salary of male teachers is \$48.22 per month; of female teachers is \$36.96. There are forty-five graded schools employing 245 teachers; there are fourteen academies employing fifty-five teachers; and eight colleges and universities employing sixty-seven teachers.

AN exchange says that the recent death of ex-Senator James W. Nesmith of Oregon, leaves Willard Saulsbury of Delaware, Lyman Trumbull of Illinois, James Harlan of Iowa, Samuel C. Pomeroy of Kansas, Morton S. Wilkinson and Henry M. Rice of Minnesota, Daniel Clark of New Hampshire, Edgar Cowan of Pennsylvania, John Sherman of Ohio, and James R. Doolittle of Wisconsin, the only surviving members of the United States senate at the commencement of the late civil war, and who took their seats at the memorable first session of the Thirty-seventh congress July, 1861.

ATTORNEY GENERAL GARLAND has rendered a decision on the three points relative to the acceptance of the Dolphin by the government. The Attorney General holds that the vessel cannot be accepted; that no contract exists between John Roach and the government, and that the large sum of money paid him for the vessel may be recovered.

IT is charged that the custom house officials at San Francisco have been issuing bogus tickets-of-leave to Chinese coming to this country—that is to say furnishing false certificates of former residence in the United States to Chinese coming here for the first time, and who could not land under a faithful enforcement of the law.

THE lowering of the rates of postage is quite a benefit to the public, but it is working a hardship on the postmasters, as their salaries have been reduced in consequence.

THE greenback folly is still prevalent in Iowa. Five delegates to a state greenback convention met at Des Moines last week and nominated a full state ticket.

AGAINST LAND GRANT ROADS. A Decision that will Restore Millions of Acres to the Public Domain.

WASHINGTON, July 13.—Land Commissioner Sparks has rendered a decision affirming the right of entry under the public land law, and decisions of the supreme court of the United States, of lands heretofore withdrawn by the voluntary action of the general land office for railroad indemnity purposes where no requirement of law existed for making such withdrawals. The effect of this decision, if sustained by the secretary of the interior, will be to restore to entry under the homestead and other laws many million acres of public land which have been kept out of the market for many years because claimed by railroad corporations. In the course of the decision, which is quite lengthy, the commissioner cites from leading decisions of the supreme court and concludes as follows: Following these decisions, by the authority of which I am governed, I must hold that a withdrawal of land by the commissioner of the general land office, when withdrawals from settlement, entry or other appropriation are not required by law, is effective only as information in defining the limits within which indemnity selections may be made in a proper time and manner, but is not operative as a prohibitive settlement and entries within such limits, under the public land act laws prior to the time when a lawful selection by the railroad company has actually been made.

This decision was brought out by an inquiry from the receiver at the land office at Walla Walla, Washington territory, as to whether or not the Northern Pacific railroad company is entitled to the land regularly settled upon by one Miller, but which was, by a change in the line of the above mentioned road, brought within its indemnity limits.

A valuable deposit of the mineral called manganese has been discovered in Washington county. Manganese is one of the precious metals. Books quote it at \$108.72 per pound avoirdupois. It has never before been found in America, as far as we can learn, and has only been found in some parts of Europe and the finest mineral comes from Russia. It is used to make steel rails, and in the manufacture of steel generally; it will harden iron; it is on the point of gold pens; it is used extensively in medicine, and in many other ways.

The hop market remains depressed, and no improvement in demands from the brewer. Prime quality can be had at ten cents.

STATE NEWS.

Benton county has \$50,140.26 in the Treasury.

Douglas county will have 150,000 pounds more wool this season than ever before.

The fish wheel on the Upper Columbia catch from seven to ten tons of salmon daily.

M. S. Farrow, a pioneer of 1848, died at his home near Shedd, Linn county, June 22, aged 70 years.

It is proposed to place a monument over the grave of Colonel Nesmith by the citizens of Polk county.

The close season for deer ended July 1st and venison is making its appearance in southern Oregon markets.

Cougars are proving troublesome in the Applegate country. Several horses have been killed lately by these pests.

Harvey Shepard has discovered a promising quartz ledge a short distance south of Ashland. Considerable work has already been done on it.

Yamhill county has organized an agricultural society, and arrangements are being made for a county fair to be held September 15 to 19.

A \$65 nugget was picked up by Ike Klopff at his placer claim in Granite last week. His mine is paying an average of \$7 per day to the man.

A man named Crabb was fatally injured at Albany July 4 by riding against a wagon tongue while on horseback. He died from internal injuries on Sunday.

There is a violin in Albany which was made in 1517. It is of Italian construction, finely engraved, and is now worth several hundred dollars. Adrian Corley is its owner.

The Klamath and Yelkax Indians are not as much on the increase as they were some years ago, there being sixty-three deaths among them last year, against thirty-one births.

Mr. Joseph Shambaugh, while loading a car on Thursday with lumber at Oro Dell, fell from the car, striking the rail, breaking two ribs and cutting his head in two places, and was pretty badly bruised up, besides.

Walla Walla Union: Wheat cutting commenced on the Blackfoot tract Tuesday, and Wednesday three headers were in operation. In a few days eight headers and two big threshers will be at work. An estimate of Wednesday's work gives an average of forty bushels per acre.

The Pine valley mines in Baker county are showing up very richly, and a six-horse fast mail coach has been put on the route. Some of the placers are said to be yielding from 50 cents to \$4 and upward to the pan. There are now 3000 men in the mines, with more going in every day.

A 12-year old son of Isaac Watkins, who resides about five miles from Drain, on Elk creek, shot himself in the left arm last Thursday. It seems he was putting the gun across a log and the lock caught in some way and set it off, tearing the arm so badly that it was necessary to amputate it above the elbow.

Oregon City Enterprise: We are informed that Elmer's mill in Highland precinct was burned Thursday night. We understand that the proprietor set fire to the old dam in order to burn it out so as to put in a new one, and thinking it was all right, left it and went to bed. In the morning the mill was gone.

Ashland Tidings: Operations at the Big Yank ledge in Josephine county are not progressing as rapidly as was expected. Some people think the ledge is not worth the work in order to be able to buy up the claims of various parties on the ledge. The price is set up by a demonstration of the paying qualities of the immense body of rock of which the ledge is composed.

Independence West Side: Reports from the hop-raising districts of the county are to the effect that rust has appeared on the vines and is doing great damage to the crop. The hop rust is very similar to that which appears on the wheat, and is very destructive. Tom Ford of Dallas says that the rust commenced to work on his hops nearly two months ago and that the hops first lose their color and then wither and die.

The dwelling of Mrs. Nessley, situated on the Grande Ronde river, about one mile north of La Grande, was totally destroyed by fire last Wednesday morning. It seems that the family arose about 4 o'clock in the morning, built a fire in the kitchen stove, and then proceeded with the chores on the outside, when the house was discovered in flames. The fire is supposed to have originated from a defective flue. Nothing but a little furniture was saved. Loss about \$3500, insurance \$1000.

Visitors from the Sound and from the interior of the State say this is the liveliest place they've struck; that there is more business, more money in circulation and everything appears so much more prosperous. About the third day they fell among the croakers, the men who, if there was a boom would hold their property so high that you couldn't touch it with a forty foot pole, and predict that we are all going to the demitition bow wads. There is nothing good or bad in this world but thinking makes it so, and it's just as easy and ever so much better to look on the bright side of life than to be forever worrying and prophesying always of disasters. —Astorian.

GENERAL NEWS.

Strikes are common in the Eastern States.

It is stated in the Soudan that El Mahdi is dead.

Desertion exists among small farmers in Coffee county, Missouri, on account of floods.

It is said Minister Foster has failed to regulate a second commercial treaty with Spain.

Subscriptions to the New York World's Bartholdi pedestal fund amounted to \$90,647 up to Thursday.

At a meeting of ladies in Richmond, Va., resolutions were adopted favoring the whipping post for wife beaters.

James D. Fish had \$10 in his pockets when he entered the Auburn prison, New York. He had stolen millions.

Alleged cases of sporadic cholera at Toledo, among Peles in the city prison, turn out to have been only cholera morbus.

Sixty persons were taken seriously ill from eating dried beef, presumed to be made from diseased cattle, at Momence, Illinois.

Four members of the Salvation Army were arrested at Plymouth, Penn., and fined \$2 each and costs for disturbing the peace.

The postmaster general has approved the design for the ten cent special delivery stamp authorized by Congress at its last session.

The weekly bank statement of New York city shows a reserve increase of \$2,293,000. Banks hold now \$61,901,000 in excess of legal requirements.

Maxwell, the alleged murderer of Preller in St. Louis last April, is still held in New Zealand on proceedings attacking the regularity of the warrant of extradition.

A very severe thunder storm passed over Philadelphia. Several dwellings were struck by lightning. At Gloucester, N. J., a child was killed by a thunderbolt.

James Hart, of Sheakleyville, Mercer county, Pa., has eloped with his sixteen year old niece, Jennie Case, of the same place. Hart leaves a wife and two children.

It is semi-officially announced that the appointment of Jonas as United States consul at Prague was objected to on account of that gentleman's known animosity toward Austria.

P. B. Delany, of New York City, has just patented a lightning rod of copper wire for the human body. The wire runs down the back and legs, conducting vicious force to the ground.

Mrs. James H. McMullen, of Portland, Maine, was robbed of a satchel containing diamonds valued at \$30,000 while on her way to Old Orchard, on the Boston & Maine railway.

Secretary of war has ordered 4000 men from the departments of Texas and the Plate to report to Fort Reno, Indian territory, to be ready in case of trouble with the Cheyennes.

Advices from San Francisco state that Superior Judge Frank M. Clough is a raving maniac. He was examined by the insanity commissioner and sent to the Stockton insane asylum.

Secretary Endicott has gone to New York to attend a meeting of the board appointed to examine means of defense for this country and to report recommendations for additional fortifications.

At the Rock Island arsenal the Government is making the new steel targets to be used at the coming rifle contests. They are made in the shape of men, and 400 of them are under construction.

The secretary of the navy has sent an order to the chief of the New York navy yard providing for the appointment of a board to examine persons applying for the various foremanships in the yard.

Count Esterhazy, a Hungarian nobleman, banished in the revolution of 1848, proposes to settle 20,000 Hungarians in the Canadian Pacific railway belt. He is encouraged by the dominion government.

The London sensation continues. The Pall Mall Gazette is being boycotted by the clubs and aristocracy, but it is increasing its circulation and proposes to raise the drapery for the great vice of the English capital.

Miss Mattie Tenke of Reed's Mills, Pa., eloped last week with her father's hostler. She let herself out of a third story window with a bed cord to join her adored. Her brothers are in pursuit of the couple.

The ex-mayor of Minneapolis and a party of nine other persons were out in a small steam yacht on Lake Minnetonka Sunday, when a violent storm came up, capsizing the yacht and drowning all on board.

Managers of the leading clearing houses of the United States report that total clearances for the week ending July 11th were \$752,897,046, an increase of 7.8 per cent compared with the corresponding week a year ago.

A dispatch from Virginia City, Nevada, announces that the first bar of bullion taken from the 3000-foot level of the Comstock lode had been received at the assayer's office, and was valued at \$2712. This caused some excitement in mining circles.



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