

THE PAST YEAR.

Chronological Review of the Local Happenings

OF THE YEAR JUST PASSED.

An Interesting Historical Epitome
Compiled From the Local Columns
of The Statesman.

JANUARY

1—John Karl Brown, who stole leather from Krause & Klein, captured at Gervais. Weller Bros. succeed Squire Farrar & Co. at Commercial and Ferry streets.

2—A. M. Clough commissioned D. D. G. M. W. of A. O. U. W. for Marion County.

3—Funeral of Daniel Clark, one of Oregon's pioneers.

4—The Tax Commission provided for by the legislature of 1885, (special session) convened at the state capital, and elected R. S. Strahan chairman, and J. T. Gregg secretary.

5—John Hughes succeeded Ben Strang as Alderman from the 4th ward. City council passed the "cow" ordinance. James Mead and J. H. Cavanaugh elected policemen, and D. C. Howard road supervisor. Gov. Moody pardoned Joel Hubbard, aged 13, sentenced from Union county for horse-stealing.

6—Will of Daniel Clark probated. John Dolan John Barrett and Thos. Dilworth lodged in the county jail for housebreaking at Aurora. Wm. Franklin, aged 102 died at Butte Creek.

7—State Insurance Co. purchased lot and brick block on corner Commercial and Chemska, and work of repairing the block began. Mrs. E. J. Dawne and children returned from Alaska.

8—W. B. Ayer of Portland relinquished his claim to copyright on registry blanks. Certificates filed regarding the supervisor election dispute.

9—County court appointed registry judges and clerks. Codification of assessment laws completed by Clerks Gregg and Hill. The mayor signed the cow ordinance.

10—Big fire at Wallula Jn. Loss about \$60,000.

11—Fire caught in Wraga's tailor shop, but discovered. No damage. Attempt made to kill editor D. H. Thomas at Forest Grove. State board signed contract with Oregon Electric light company for lighting public buildings, for \$5000 per annum. County court decides case of H. A. C. band against Oregon State Board of Agriculture. Judgment of \$100 and costs for band.

12—Six small boys reprimanded for disobeying the 9 o'clock ordinance. W. T. Carey beat Walt Holman a 2 mile race on roller skates at the rink. E. L. Johnson opened new book store.

13—W. J. Hervey appointed a member of assessment and taxation commission. Officers of Capital National bank elected.

14—Slight snowfall.

15—Thos. McF. Patton, late U. S. Consul general at Higa, Japan, returns to San Francisco, en route home. Drug store of J. L. Calvert at Hubbard robbed of \$100 worth of goods. J. S. Knox arrested for the crime, and bound over in sum of \$300.

16—Epiphany party at Mrs. S. E. Heulats.

17—Heavy snowfall. Thermometer at 25 degrees.

18—North bound passenger train delayed three hours by snow.

19—Snow all disappeared before the festive Chinook. Loss of D. L. Moore via Z. F. Moody, R. P. Earhart and Ed. Hirsch (board of commissioners) for a deed to a lot of swamp land, decided in favor of plaintiff by supreme court. Guard house at the penitentiary burned.

20—Newport, Cape Foulweather and Kings Valley R. R. incorporated. Capital stock \$3,000,000. C. Uzavoye sold his shoe store to Staiger Bros. Gov. Moody commissioned Geo. Watkins, of the Dalles, judge of the 7th judicial district. K. of L. declare boycott on Wm. Martin.

21—Residence of Hon. J. C. Peabody burglarized. Four bents of bridge across Pudding river washed out. Indian war veterans memorial congress for 1886, held at Forest Grove. Body of Peter Biddle, drowned April 4, found in Luckiamute near Independence.

22—The "campaign" proper for Marion county opened at Jefferson. Small blaze back of Haines's tailoring shop, called out the department. Loss nominal.

23—Letter from Mrs. B. F. Bonham, dated on City of Chester, at Honolulu. Eastern mail gets through, after several days.

24—Report received of Mehama ferry breaking loose. Loss \$50.

25—Chas. Casen of East Portland arrested and bound over in sum of \$3000 for rape; his victim having attempted suicide the day before. Money raised for a walk to L. O. O. F. cemetery.

FEBRUARY

1—China New Year.

2—H. A. C. band case appealed. Steam heating and supply and furniture bids opened at Indian school. Croasman & McCully, succeed A. B. Croasman.

3—Geo. W. Bradley, of Woodburn, assigns liabilities \$558.14. Navigation which had been closed for 14 weeks, reopened.

4—Little daughter of S. D. Dickinson narrowly escaped drowning, in a creek south of Salem.

5—Anti-Chinese riots at Seattle. One man killed four wounded. Slight uneasiness in Salem, in consequence. Blooming willows displayed by B. C. Geer at this office. D. F. Wagner and company succeed F. Farmer & Co.

6—State Printer completes laws and documents of special session. Mrs. David Duval of Buena Vista loses her eyesight by burning with lye.

7—Chas. Casen indicted for rape. J. S. Knox, who robbed Calvert's store at Hubbard, sentenced to seven years.

8—John Karl Brown taken to the "pen" for two years for burglarizing Krause & Kline's store.

9—Oregon Central Live Stock and Waggon Road Co. incorporated. Object to construct a road through Minto pass to Eastern Oregon. Three boys aged from thirteen to seventeen, brought to jail from Gervais for burglary.

10—Small fire in H. Diamond's barber shop. Loss nominal.

11—Eleven prisoners confined in county jail. Burglars enter the residences of David Simpson and Dr. W. C. Warmer; no clues.

12—Death of Louis DeVolain, in his cabin in Salem, alone, at the age of 85.

13—State Printer completes laws and documents of special session. Mrs. David Duval of Buena Vista loses her eyesight by burning with lye.

14—Chas. Casen indicted for rape. J. S. Knox, who robbed Calvert's store at Hubbard, sentenced to seven years.

15—John Karl Brown taken to the "pen" for two years for burglarizing Krause & Kline's store.

16—Oregon Central Live Stock and Waggon Road Co. incorporated. Object to construct a road through Minto pass to Eastern Oregon. Three boys aged from thirteen to seventeen, brought to jail from Gervais for burglary.

17—Small fire in H. Diamond's barber shop. Loss nominal.

18—Eleven prisoners confined in county jail. Burglars enter the residences of David Simpson and Dr. W. C. Warmer; no clues.

19—Death of Louis DeVolain, in his cabin in Salem, alone, at the age of 85.

20—State Printer completes laws and documents of special session. Mrs. David Duval of Buena Vista loses her eyesight by burning with lye.

21—Chas. Casen indicted for rape. J. S. Knox, who robbed Calvert's store at Hubbard, sentenced to seven years.

22—John Karl Brown taken to the "pen" for two years for burglarizing Krause & Kline's store.

23—Oregon Central Live Stock and Waggon Road Co. incorporated. Object to construct a road through Minto pass to Eastern Oregon. Three boys aged from thirteen to seventeen, brought to jail from Gervais for burglary.

24—Small fire in H. Diamond's barber shop. Loss nominal.

25—Eleven prisoners confined in county jail. Burglars enter the residences of David Simpson and Dr. W. C. Warmer; no clues.

26—Death of Louis DeVolain, in his cabin in Salem, alone, at the age of 85.

27—State Printer completes laws and documents of special session. Mrs. David Duval of Buena Vista loses her eyesight by burning with lye.

28—Chas. Casen indicted for rape. J. S. Knox, who robbed Calvert's store at Hubbard, sentenced to seven years.

29—John Karl Brown taken to the "pen" for two years for burglarizing Krause & Kline's store.

30—Oregon Central Live Stock and Waggon Road Co. incorporated. Object to construct a road through Minto pass to Eastern Oregon. Three boys aged from thirteen to seventeen, brought to jail from Gervais for burglary.

31—Small fire in H. Diamond's barber shop. Loss nominal.

MARCH

1—Meeting of tax payers and citizens in Capital City Bank to consider bridge question, and to meet calling committee.

2—Meeting of republican county central committee to call primaries and county convention.

3—Committee of 24 chosen by mass meet-

ing to consider the bridge matter.

4—A. J. Simpson elected school clerk of dist. 24, and Leo Willis director. Appointment of executive committee of 5 by committee of 24.

5—J. A. McDonald, marble, cutter assigns liabilities \$2287, assets \$1575.

6—Laying of electric light wires in Capitol building begun. Death of Mrs. Phoebe Stanton, a pioneer of 1848, at the age of 71 years.

7—Col. Geo. Williams appointed Adj. Gen. on staff of Commander-in-chief of O. S. M. "Probi" primary convention held.

8—Advised school meeting, and 5 mill tax voted. Students at Indian school at Chemawa moved into new buildings. Fire at McCoy's destroys Trane & Son's store; loss about \$7500.

9—St. Patrick's day celebrated at Gervais.

10—Bridge survey begun. Prohibition county convention.

11—Marion county "squares all accounts" with the state. Work begun on sidewalk to L. O. O. F. cemetery.

12—James McDonald, a laborer, aged about 54 years, killed by falling from a tree on the Croisan farm, south of town. Andrew Kelley, ex-mayor of Salem, and a resident for 27 years, died at age of 55.

13—Mrs. B. C. Devol falls from a foot-bridge into Mill creek in North Salem and is drowned.

14—Death of H. N. V. Holmes, a pioneer of 1848, at the advanced age of 73.

15—Annual stallion show—75 blooded horses on exhibition. Oregon State Poultry Association met at office of J. T. Gregg and elected officers.

16—Supreme court decides registry law unconstitutional.

17—Dr. H. Carpenter resigns superintendency of Oregon Insane Asylum, and Dr. E. Josephi of East Portland appointed to the position.

18—I. O. O. F. cemetery walk completed. First open air concert by the H. A. C. Band.

19—Republican primaries held. Last students of U. S. Indian school arrive at Chemawa from Forest Grove.

20—Robert Lee Wallace, son of R. S. Wallace, drowned while fishing. Democratic primaries.

21—Armstrong & Ross succeed to the business of the late A. Kelly.

22—Young Men's Republican club formed.

23—Mary J. Leonard admitted to the bar of Oregon by the supreme court—she being the first woman ever admitted to the bar of Oregon.

24—State prohibition convention.

25—Final decree in the registry law case.

26—U. S. court ordered C. N. Scott receiver to repair Narrow Gauge railway line.

27—Republican county convention. Isaac Butts, an insane man, causes a good deal of excitement in being rescued from the Willamette. Fire destroyed Forsythe & Davis' sawmill at Champcoy.

28—Work on capital building improved.

29—Democratic county convention.

30—State Insurance Co. occupy their new quarters on State and Chemska street.

31—The grand ball at Opera house. Dr. S. E. Josephi took charge of, and Dr. Carpenter retired from, the asylum.

1—City election at Silverton.

2—Port Drug Co. of Salem incorporated; capital stock \$20,000. Enoch Ross of Silverton kills a bear weighing 1000 pounds. Ripe strawberries reported.

3—Death of "Jack" Simpson.

4—Residence of Mrs. Beaman in North Salem burned. Loss \$700; insurance \$300.

5—"Lager Beer Joe," an old timer, and an odd character, died at Gervais. Sylvester Penner, and others addressed the democracy at Reed's opera house.

6—Speaking by T. R. Cornelius and other republican candidates at Reed's opera house.

7—Joseph Meyers and wife are seriously injured in a runaway accident. Elijah Williams, a pioneer of 1851, who died at Portland on the 16th, at the age of 77, buried here.

8—Salem firemen's coffee club disbanded.

9—George Ward, fireman on the steamer Isabel, falls overboard and is drowned near Albany. Body of Peter Biddle, drowned April 4, found in Luckiamute near Independence.

10—The "campaign" proper for Marion county opened at Jefferson. Small blaze back of Haines's tailoring shop, called out the department. Loss nominal.

11—Letter from Mrs. B. F. Bonham, dated on City of Chester, at Honolulu. Eastern mail gets through, after several days.

12—Report received of Mehama ferry breaking loose. Loss \$50.

13—Chas. Casen of East Portland arrested and bound over in sum of \$3000 for rape; his victim having attempted suicide the day before. Money raised for a walk to L. O. O. F. cemetery.

14—Fire broke out in home of J. B. Forsythe on Front street but put out without serious damage. David Simpson qualified as school clerk. Bridge bids opened.

15—Clyde Brandenburg narrowly escaped drowning in North Mill creek, while bathing. Evangelical conference in session.

16—Joint discussion of county candidates.

17—Annual election, state and county.

18—Mrs. Elizabeth Smith, celebrated her 100th birthday near Salem.

19—Dr. H. Smith's barn and Adams' barn burned; loss \$700, insured for \$350.

20—Bridge committee of 5 reported to 24. Congregational association in session in Salem.

21—Alfred Stanton, a pioneer of Oregon, aged 75 years, seriously injured by being thrown from his buggy in this city. Alka-Hesperian society's annual reunion.

22—Sherman McClung, deckhand, and James White, purser of the steamer Isabel, drowned in the Willamette near the mouth of the Luckiamute.

23—June term of circuit court convened. Indian war veterans met at court house and organized by electing officers. Bridge meeting at Zena Polk county.

24—Pioneer association opened at Oregon City. W. T. Bell resigned as city treasurer. Special election ordered to fill vacancy and to vote on bonding city for \$30,000. Willamette University commencement exercises.

25—Barbara Giesy, a pioneer woman of Aurora, died.

26—Grand jury report filed. State Temperance Alliance in session at W. C. T. U. hall. Body of Sherman McClung drowned on the 12th, found. Christian camp-meeting in session at Turner.

27—Decomposed body of an unknown man found on farm of S. P. Farrons on Howell Prairie.

28—J. J. Shaw appointed receiver of stock of H. B. Boon. Boon's liabilities \$4500.

29—J. H. Miller's house, 121 Trade street damaged \$150 by fire.

30—Fire destroyed Hughes' barn and other property valued at \$2000; partly insured. Bell re-elected treasurer, and the city bonded by 663 to 21 votes. T. B. Odenseal late Supreme Clerk, died at Chemawa hotel.

31—Little daughter of D. L. Green injured in a runaway, from effects of which she died.

32—Idaho's insane patients taken from Oregon asylum.

1—Death of Ann Poujade, aged 92 years, at Gervais. She came to Oregon in 1847.

2—W. W. Saunders escaped from the Linn county jail.

3—Annual firemen's election resulting in choice of Wm. Anderson for chief engineer. First heavy "summer emigration" to Yakima.

4—Dr. S. R. Jessup's and others' houses entered by burglars.

5—Marion county appropriated \$1500 for the bridge construction.

6—Thos. Holman purchased the city electric light plant.

7—School board elected teachers for 1886-7.

8—Store of McKinney & Co. of Turner transferred to Wittchen & Schmidt.

9—Burglars entered the store of Nathan & Mangold at Gervais, and got away with \$1000 in money and merchandise.

10—Mr. Frickley brings first of 1886 wheat crop to Salem.

11—L. Johnson had a narrow escape from being killed, by falling under a hay rake at Aurora. Electricity first lights the streets of Salem.

12—Geo. W. Peck, a well-known citizen of Marion county, died at his home at Aumsville, aged 64 years. Post office at Chemawa discontinued.

13—W. M. Cunningham, a well-known capitalist of Salem, is killed by a falling scantling.

14—E. M. Lafore's "Nick L." defeats three other local trotters at the fair grounds. Time 2:53. Polk county court appropriated \$5000 for the new bridge.

15—File driver for bridge work arrived at Salem.

16—Residence of J. L. Parrish entered by burglars, and several articles stolen.

17—Death of Hon. A. A. McCully, from the kick of a horse.

18—Local races at fair grounds cause a little excitement.

19—Chinaman kicked to death by a horse twelve miles north of Salem. Leonard Woolen of Silverton loses an arm in a threshing machine.

20—Work began on the N. G. R. R. bridge across the Santiam.

21—Chinaman steals a purse containing \$107, from a pearlambulator, but is captured.

22—Two men enter a Chinese camp near Gervais and rob the Chinamen, and shoot one, but not fatally.

23—Gen. John A. Logan and Gov. H. A. Alger of Michigan, and party, visit Salem. Henry Johns, John Simmons, and Nelson Dilley arrested for robbing the Chinese camp near Gervais.

24—B. Co.'s concert at Reed's opera house.

25—Bids for construction of new "Bank" block opened.

26—W. T. Gray's barn burned. Loss \$200. Gov. Moody pardoned Jack Powers, sentenced from Multnomah county for murder.

1—Series of burglaries in Salem. New Catholic church building at Brooks completed.

2—Coles' circus visited Salem. A great deal of wheat reported destroyed in the fields by fire.

3—Salem public schools opened with full attendance. Contract let for erection of Bank block.

4—Morley examined and bound over for illegal voting.

5—Ed. Lamport succeeded Jordan & Son, harness dealers.

6—Jury in case of Mattie Allison, under indictment for murder in Linn county, bring in verdict of acquittal. Two brothers named Haigt escaped from the penitentiary.

7—Winfred, aged about 60, whose son was on trial in the circuit court, tries to shoot Mrs. Richards, the principal state witness, but the pistol snapped. She was arrested and declared insane.

8—Judge Boise held that the circuit court had no jurisdiction in gambling cases, where the crime occurred in incorporated cities.

9—Grand jury indicts J. F. Morley for illegal voting.

10—Reinhold Lupke, a German, committed suicide at Gervais. Steamer Champion ascends the river to Eola—the first boat of the season. River two feet above low water.

11—Grand jury reported and discharged.

12—Gilbert Ladeaux, a prominent business man of Gervais, kicked to death by a horse.

13—Harvey Cottle aged 13, severely injured by being thrown from a horse, and narrowly escaped death. Nelson Dilley Henry Johns convicted of robbing the Chinese camp near Gervais several weeks previous.

14—Wittchen & Schmidt's store at Turner burglarized. Marion county jail empty. Two men named Hare and Brown accidentally, though not dangerously shot, on Salem Prairie while "fooling" with a pistol.

15—Dr. J. W. Glens resigned as first assistant physician at the asylum, and Dr. W. T. Williamson appointed in his stead.

1—City election at Gervais. "Mitchell ticket" elected. O. & C. R. R. changed its passenger time table.

2—Annual state meeting of the Christian church convened in this city.

3—Great religious revival at Silverton.

4—Last long span of bridge completed.

5—"A So-called" citizens' meeting "captured," and the "wrong crowd" passed resolutions and adjourned. An extra freight and regular freight No. 5 collided at Hubbard, damage nominal. Job Connor of Polk county committed suicide by cutting his throat.

6—Gov. Moody proclaimed a reward of \$500 for the capture of murderers then at large.

7—New Baptist church at Starvon dedicated.

8—State board made the annual tax levy.

9—New bridge at depot across South Mill creek completed.

10—Fire at Smithfield, Polk county, destroyed Geo. Hubbard's warehouse. Loss \$4000.

11—Manuel Romero tries a "swindling" dodge on Salem, and is captured at Turner three days later.

12—Republican city primaries held.

13—Gen. John Gibbon lectured on "Yellowstone Park" at Reed's opera house.

14—Willis Jordan assaults, robs, and nearly kills Jared Tucker near Salem.

15—W. W. Saunders murder case appealed from Linn county to Supreme court.

16—Democratic city primaries.

17—First boat across the Willamette river by the band of navigation completed at Salem. Republican city convention.

Johnny Booth accidentally shot in the arm while hunting.

25—Adam Jensen, who fell from the bridge, sees the S. F. Bridge Co. for \$15,000 damages. Democratic city convention. Annual meeting of Oregon State Board of Agriculture. Citizens' committee nominates a city ticket. O. R. & N. river office opened for the season. Navigation restored on the river.

(Continued on fourth page.)

GILBERT & PATTERSON.

A Brief History of this Enterprising Firm. Ten Years of Successful Business.

Probably but few business firms have proven more successful in Salem, than have the firm of Gilbert & Patterson, which is now the representation of what was D. & A. A. McCully in 1878-79. This house was established by D. and A. A. McCully in 1878.

In 1878, Hon. A. N. Gilbert, senior member of the present firm succeeded Hon. A. A. McCully by purchase. In July 1885 S. C. Adams bought out the interest of D. A. McCully, and continued in the firm for about a year, when Hon. A. Gilbert became sole proprietor of the business.

Isaac L. Patterson, the junior partner, began as a clerk for the firm of McCully & Gilbert in 1878, and continued in the employment of the successors of that firm until in July 1885, when he took a half interest in the business and the firm assumed the style and title by which it is now known, viz: Gilbert & Patterson.

Gilbert & Patterson have a handsome store room at 287 Commercial street, and they always keep their shelves loaded with the finest line of groceries, and provisions, plain and fancy glassware, woodenware and low ware. They also make a specialty of "Epicure" tea, which has become quite a favorite. They are also the largest packers of sugar cured meats and of lard in the city. As business men, Messrs. Gilbert & Patterson have established a sound reputation for honesty in business, always giving full weight and good goods.

W. W. MARTIN.

The Pioneer Jeweler and Watchmaker of Salem—A Fine Line of Goods.

Probably one of the most attractive store rooms in Salem is that at 88 State street, occupied by Capt. W. W. Martin, the veteran jeweler, and watchmaker. On the shelves and in the show windows and show cases are displayed the finest works of the gold and silver workers' art. Capt. Martin began in Salem, in the old room occupied by Parrish and Keeler as a book store, which stood where the Capital National bank now stands, in 1865. When Parrish and Keeler erected the present block, occupied now by the bank, Mr. Martin followed them into it, but removed to his present quarters in 1873.

Here he has built up a business of excellent standing. He is probably as well prepared to do repairing, and his abilities are as good, as those of any jeweler on the coast. Mr. Cox, his assistant is a thorough mechanic, and has perfect command over the jeweler's art. They manufacture their own tools to a great extent, and some of the workmanship displayed in that line equals that of any factory known. Capt. Martin is agent for the solid gold watch, and the celebrated Rockford watches. He also keeps a full line of all first-class American watches, and makes a specialty of the well known Seth Thomas clocks. A fine line of jewelry makes his stock a very complete one.

CROASMAN & McCULLY.

Successors to A. B. Croasman, and Heavy Dealers in men's Clothing, etc.

In 1870 Messrs. A. B. Croasman and J. J. Murphy established the first business house in Salem, devoted strictly to the sale of men's clothing, and furnishing goods. They opened their first stock of goods in the small room now occupied by W. Martin as a jewelry store at 88 State street, but in 1873 finding their quarters entirely too small, they moved three doors further east, into the room now recently occupied by Bell's drug store at 94 State street. Here they remained until 1877, when the business was removed to its present location at 249 Commercial street.

In 1880, J. J. Murphy retired from the firm, and Mr. Croasman continued the business under his own name until the advent of John D. McCully in 1888. Mr. Croasman was postmaster from 1883 to 1885 during which time E. C. Small had charge of his clothing business.

Both the partners of the present firm are young, active and wide awake business men, and fully up with the times in all matters having bearing on their business. Confining themselves exclusively to gentlemen's clothing, and furnishing goods, they can keep the changes of fashions closer, and keeps their stock up to the seasons. They keep also a fine line of goods, headwear, waterproofs, and gents silk goods. They have a commodious sales room at 249 Commercial street, and carry very fine line of goods.

F. J. CATERLIN.

A Fine Display in Photography—The Modern Way Compared With The Old.

Persons passing the small white building on the corner of State and High streets, stop and gaze with pleasure on the many faces which seem to peer back at them from their many little card boards in the frames there; and well they may stop and gaze. For the frames full of photographs are very attractive, and show workmanship that is par excellence to any ever done in Oregon, or anywhere. The firm of Pickett & Caterlin began business in November 1885, since when over 1800 negatives have been taken from their camera, and over 21,000 photographs given over to customers. In last October, Mr. Pickett severed his connection with the firm, returning to his home at Indianapolis Indiana, but he left Mr. Caterlin, who continued the business, fully his equal in the ability to turn out fine work. Mr. Caterlin makes a specialty of children's photographs, negatives for which are secured by instantaneous process, thereby making the picture more true to the original, than could ever be done under the old tireless way, where the child had to sit stiffly to get over a minute at a time. It can at least be said of Mr. Caterlin, that his "work" will live after him." Photograph parlors, at 160 State street, corner High, Salem Oregon.

NABOLI.

The writer was recently shown a beautiful case of assorted Naboli at the office of Dr. J. J. Jennings, the dentist at 104 State street, who makes good fillings, and all the latest improved fillings, a specialty. This rare and expensive drug (which is not in stock in Salem) is a dental pain obtundent, which some of the leading dentists of the east, after having failed with cocaine, have obtained the most salutary effects, upon sensitive dentine. Thereby, they have made the filling of sensitive teeth at least bearable, if not a pleasure. Dr. Jennings is always on the look out, not only to keep abreast with his profession, but to keep the greatest possible comfort to his patrons.

BATTLE OF THE ABIQUA.

The Last Battle Ever Fought in Marion County.

THE BRAVE MEN OF EARLY DAYS.

Departure of the Klamaths and Their Chief "Crooked Finger," From This "Illahce."

Following is an account of the somewhat famous battle of the Abiqua, written by Hon. R. C. Geer, and which appeared in the Daily Statesman March 18th 1877:

It was the last battle ever fought on Marion county soil, and the only one of consequence, save the battle of Butte creek, some time before:

"I see by an article in the Oregonian of March 23, written by Gov. Geo. L. Curry, that the 'Battle of the Abiqua' is a 'romance of history.' Well, it was rather a romantic fight, in a romantic place, and brought on in a romantic manner; but it is true history, Gov. Geo. L. Curry to the contrary, notwithstanding. It was fought twenty-nine years ago the first of this month.

I have been asked to write the 'history,' and wrote it some years ago for a man that is now writing the early history of this country.

In writing the history of this short but decisive campaign, I feel a diffidence, as I have to write from memory, but will be as correct and just as possible. I say just, for I cannot now recollect all the brave boys that participated in that, to most of us, our first battle. All old Oregonians know that in the Winter of 1847-48 a great many men were called east of the mountains to punish the Cayuses for the murder of Dr. Whitman and family, and it becoming apparent to the settlers, as well as Gov. Abernethy, that there was danger of an Indian outbreak, the settlers formed or organized companies, of what we called home guards, to be in readiness at a moment's warning, to defend our wives and children and each other, at all hazards. In this neighborhood I was chosen captain of as brave a company of men as ever mustered, and we met every Saturday at Eq. Dunbar's for drill. Other neighborhoods had their companies. Capt. Allen Davy had a company of cavalry on the Santiam; Capt. Dick Miller had a company between the Abiqua and Butte Creek, and if I remember right, Uncle Sam Parker had a company near Salem. In February 1848, we held ourselves ready at a moment's warning, for the signs were ominous. Crooked Finger, a desperate Molalla Indian, (said to be chief of all events he controlled the Molallas and a band of Klamaths that had been infesting this part of the valley for several years), was continually traveling from the Molalla to the Santiam on the Klamath trail, and insulting the settlers by ordering the women, in the absence of the men, to cook him a meal of victuals at any time of the day, and as all the settlers on that trail were new-comers, he sometimes succeeded in scaring them into obeying him by his gestures and threats. He said all the brave men had gone to fight the Cayuses, and he could do just as he pleased. He and his band of Klamaths drove one man from the claim that Leonard Schindler now owns, by their insolence.

All the settlers believed that an Indian massacre was brewing, and when the Klamath Indians, armed and painted for war, surrounded Dickey Miller's house, and made insolent and insulting demands, and gave the warwhoop, (a sound that once heard is never forgotten, and like the scream of the panther, or the wail of a rattlesnake, they never mistaken for any other sound), they knew that it was time to act and they did act at once.