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Any friend who feels an interest in the prosperity of this region, is authorized to act as Agent for this paper, in procuring subscribers.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

—See fourth page for Poetry, etc.

—The Ajax arrived from San Francisco Tuesday morning.

—The Vesta and Elektra were the only vessels at anchor in the harbor yesterday.

—It will be seen that the ladies of the Spiritual Society of Astoria are to hold a fair soon.

—The first Ocean steamer to tie to Flavel's new dock was the California, hence for Sitka, on the 17th.

—The Ship David Brown had not cleared from San Francisco on the 12th, but would do so on the 13th.

—The first trip of the Sedalia was made yesterday to Wallicut river, for a scow load of bark for a Portland tannery.

—Young lettuce, with leaves an inch and a half in diameter, may be seen growing in the garden of Capt. Rogers on Cass street.

—John Hobsons new house on Chemoque street is enclosed. Mr. Warnstaff is building a new house on the hill, and others are in contemplation.

—The Public school at Forest Grove has been abandoned because of the expense attending the change of text-books. It will be $300,000 loss to the State.

—Our inquiries concerning the establishment of a starch factory in Clatsop county have been in the interest of no person specially. The field is open for any one, and a fortune awaits the man who starts the project.

—Capt. C. Rockwell of the United States Coast Survey, who has been engaged on the Columbia river the past season with head-quarters at Oak Point, leaves for California overland to day. His party will go by the Ajax.

—The bark Powhattan, Capt. Thomas, en route to this port, is consigned to Falkner, Bell & Co. according to the Alta, but the Bulletin of 13th notes the departure of the British bark Powhattan, Johnson, for San Diego. Which is which?

—Application will soon be made for a mail route from Astoria to Westport, overland, by way of Klaskanine, Mishawaka, Walkers, and the upper settlement on the Nehalem. The distance is sixty-two miles and the petition will be for weekly service.

—The Merrimac returned from Portland yesterday, bringing the Mariano, partly laden with grain after eighteen days above. Every vessel that has come down within a week, has been either only part loaded or has grounded, lightered, etc. The steamship Idaho lifted over a hundred tons before she got down.

—The barkentine Webfoot finally got away yesterday in tow of the Ben Holladay for Kalama. She was unable to proceed for several days in consequence of strong east winds, a matter which, by the way, is liable to prevent ships from going above 'most any time, in fall or winter. Astoria is the point.

—Dr. Glass has been declared "guilty as found in the indictment," by a Multnomah county Circuit Court jury—of producing the death of poor Mary Hardman, a motherless girl, seduced by a man named Mealy of Albany. The trial lasted seval days, and nearly all the physicians of Portland were called as witnesses to prove certain things in medical treatment proving the old saying that Doctor's disagree —as they seem to differ in many important points. Though Dr. Glass is convicted, the life and death of the poor girl can scarcely be considered avenged.

POINT ADAMS LIGHT.

Much inquiry is made by the masters of vessels entering the Columbia river concerning the Light-house on Point Adams, for which Congress made appropriation at the last session.

One entire Summer has passed away since that appropriation was made, and so far as the public can see, there is yet nothing done.

Whether this apparent delay is the fault of those having the subject in hand, or the result of the circumlocution office, we do not know.

This we do know: That one light at the entrance of the Columbia, where such an immense commerce is being carried out and in, is inadequate,—and that more should be immediately erected.

Masters of steam vessels, and pilots, claim that if there were a light of different colors placed on Sand Island, they would often be enabled to come in during the night, while now they toss about at sea waiting for the next day.

We hope our delegation in Congress will make it their first duty to see why the work on Point Adams has not been commenced, and to make a further appropriation to cover the cost of a light on Sand Island.

There is no longer any doubt of the existence of enemies to the growing trade of the Columbia river; men who would like to see the business go elsewhere; but our own people, and Senators and Representatives from Oregon should not permit the necessary lights to be withheld, the river to be enveloped in darkness, and the State deprived of her legitimate commerce.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.—From report it seems that there are some beings in this county who are fit subjects for a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, if not for the consideration of the grand jury. Sometimes persons use a goad in driving their ox-teams, which has a sharp, iron prod or point, with which the dumb brute is kept in trembling fear or bodily torture all the time. Lately an ox driven in this manner in this county, lay down in the team and refused to rise again, though repeatedly stabbed by the cruel driver thrusting the prod into him. Death released the poor dumb creature from its torturer, and the incident was considered so marvelous that a post mortem was had, revealing the not very surprising fact that the animal died from internal hemorrhage and mortification, caused by previous piercing of the body with the barbarous goad.

—Fred Douglass has not called, and we are rather inclined to doubt the Bulletin's story. The Sedalia moved out yesterday however, on her first business trip —officered as formerly stated in the ASTORIAN, and will hereafter be on hand for anything in her line. When she gets up to Portland with a vessel in a few days the Bulletin can settle that Fred Douglass business with the engineer.

—The Domestic Sewing Machine took the first premium at the State Fair—also, four blue ribbons for work. It also took the blue ribbon at two of the county fairs. I. W. Case is agent for Clatsop county. Call and see it for yourselves. 15t

—The sloop Mary H., and W. H. Twilight, both laid up for repairs recently, are again running.

—Work is driving along on the Farmer Company's dock. The roadway will be completed to-day, and shingling commenced on the roof of the warehouse.

—Delightful weather continues, and pleasant days are the rule.

—Gov. Woods of Utah is on his way to Oregon.

—A class of women in antagonism, to the persecutions of the tyrant Man, have ventured upon a new field of enterprise in Massachusetts. They have segregated themselves into a colony near Boston. Women are to own all the real estate and transact all the business connected with the organization. It is said, over a thousand female members have enrolled their names on the list. The society styles itself the "Woman's Economical Garden Homestead League," and the problem to be solved is, "Can't we get along without the interference or dictation of men?" Time will show.

—If the church property of the country were taxable, as James Barton advocates, there would be additional revenue from a valuation of of nearly $355,000,000.

STATE EQUALIZATION BOARD.

The following table shows the number of horses, cattle, sheep, and swine in this State, and the average values by counties, according to the assessment rolls of 1873, as reported to the State Board of Equalization, at Salem. So far as statistics go it is all very well, perhaps, but as a production of mind over matter it would probably rate less than A 1:

County.	Horses.	Value.	Average.	Cattle.	Value.	Average.
Baker	1918	$69 292	$36 20 6-10	10,839	170,146	$15 66 8-10
Benton	2810	127,823	45 48 5-10	10,859	69,408	8 96
Clackamas	2512	94,800	42 85 7-10	7,753	116,203	15 74
Clatsop	180	7,805	43 36 2-10	7,380	40,684	19 59
Columbia..	399	14,955	37 48 1-10	2,081	61,227	21 98
Curry	772	24,175	32 77 2-10	5,345	82,751	13 02
Coos	823	19,250	23 39 8-10	6,470	75,214	11 62
Douglas ...	4935	118,217	33 68	13,070	177,163	13 55
Jackson ...	6126	216,349	35 31 6-10	21,052	338,088	16 06
Josephine	780	30,760	38 98	4,027	65,382	16 23
Lane	5404	108,684	36 16	14,782	160,990	11 49
Linn	6900	271,851	42 66	14,022	158,193	10 92
Marion	4771	204,135	42 78	10,808	152,298	14 08
Multnoma	1433	80,735	60 56	4,541	84,257	18 55
Polk	3919	164,543	41 98	8,438	94,424	11 19
Tillamook	188	6,406	35 55	1,497	26,238	17 57
Umatilla..	5011	149,425	29 81	23,788	380,073	15 13
Union	4279	197,229	46 09	15,381	229,328	14 89
Wash'gton	2246	118,805	52 45	5,019	87,475	15 43
Wasco	5412	198,389	31 11	26,902	420,614	15 66
Yamhill ...	3899	165,520	48 69	7,889	100,670	13 00
Grant......	2408	115,639	48 02	18,212	320,432	17 59

As previously stated in these columns, there is considerable complaint in various parts of Oregon concerning the action of the State Board of Equalization. According to their rules and regulations relating to the duties of assessors, these complaints are well grounded. We find some glaring inconsistencies in those rules, which cannot fail to work injustice in many cases.

First, it is inconsistent with truth to order that the Clatsop County Board must add twenty per cent. to the value of our agricultural lands, and fifteen per cent. to the value of our horses. No member of the State Board has visited this county, to inquire into this matter, hence is not supposed to know any better than our County Board and Assessor, (officers sworn to do their duty), who had previously fixed the valuation and caused the tax book to be made out according to law. It is presumed that the State board have judged of the quality of our Clatsop county agricultural lands by comparison with the wheat lands of the valley, as a basis for their judgment in ordering this addition to the assessed valuation. Nor do the State board seem to understand that the horses of this region are not work-horses, such as they see in the farming country, or in cities about their homes, but that they are cayuses, used principally for packing.

The State board, among many other things, instruct Assessors as follows:

RULE 10. Where the personal property of any householder is less than the $300 exempt by law, the exemption noted on the roll should only equal the amount of such personal property.

Exactly so; but suppose a tax-payer's personal property amounted to—say $250; then he could only get an exemption of $250. Now suppose this property consisted of horses, to the value of which the State board order fifteen per cent. to be added, making the value $287 50—thus forcing the tax-payer to pay taxes in violation of that law by which he is entitled to an exemption on all the personal property he owns up to $300.

But again, the Board instructs as follows:

11. In no case should the amount of the indebtedness and exemption of a tax payer appear to exceed the amount of his property. Thus, if the amount of an individual's taxable property is $500, and he swears to an indebtedness of $5,000, a sum only equal to the amount of his property should appear in the columns of indebtedness and exemption, since the excess of his debts over his assets is a fact of no benefit to the county, but tends to create confusion.

Suppose the lands of a tax-payer should be valued by the assessor at $1,000, and he should be indebted in the sum of $1,500 and land was the only property he owned, (which is often the case), according to the above instructions, as his land is only worth $1,000, he of course receives a credit of only $1,000, which balances accounts. But now the State board comes in and directs that twenty per cent. be added to the value of this land, and thus it will be seen that the party has to pay on $200 worth of property—when his indebtedness would have more than covered the increase, but now, on account of the instructions to the assessor, above referred to, he has lost his opportunity to get the credit for his indebtedness to which he was entitled.

Considering the matter in all its bearings we think the press of the State is justified in its censure of the board.

OUR SPICERY.

—Turkeys will die game on the 27th of this month.

—The sting of reproach is the truth of it.

—The hardest thing to raise on a farm is a mortgage.

—Dont quarrel with a Spiritualist. He can always turn the tables on you.

—Young men are often gay deceivers; old ones are some times gray deceivers.

—Begging for a whiskey strait, might be correctly termed "pleading at the bar."

—A Newark, N. J., man was completely cured of catarrh by being kicked down stairs.

—Do not run in debt to your shoemaker. It is unpleasant to be unable to say your soul is your own.

—Musical Warsaw is going to have an organ factory. A great many family organs are produced there now.

—Collections are so slow now that absent minded people find it more difficult than usual to collect their thoughts.

—When quinine gives you a buzzing in your your head, stop taking it. The same remark will apply to apple-jack.

—The most unpopular person in Virginia is the man who demonstrated that kerosene oil will cure a snake bite just as well as whiskey.

—Gen. Sam Houston always had on his mantel in his parlor a written notice that "General Houston retires at nine o'clock every evening.

—Men who indulge in day dreams, or permit their thoughts to wander amidst the mazy fields of imagination, have no business to experiment with a buzz saw.

—A Missouri clergyman was lately called upon to marry fourteen couples in one day, and his fees mounted to fifty pounds of dried apples and a due bill for eighteen bushels of buckwheat.

—Of all the pies beneath the skies to bring surprise to hungry eyes of weak or wise, no kind of pies that want supplies and binds the ties which anger tries when storms arise, and with surmise our taste well tries, and who denies the great surprise of pumpkin pies?

—Not long ago, in the Court of Appeals, a certain lawyer of Celtic extraction, while arguing with earnestness his case, stated a point and then proceeded: "And, if it plaze the court, if I am wrong in this, I have another point that is equally conclusive."

—It is sometimes very annoying to have persons volunteer information upon subjects in regard to which their ignorance is remarkable; but that was simply aggravating who said that Pensylvania is so-called because the lead pencil was invented there.

—A young man out in search of his father's lost pig, near Scranton, Pensylvania accosted an Irishman along the road with: "Have you seen a stray pig about here?" "Faith," said Pat, "and how could I tell a stray pig from another?" That reminds us of the town ordinance which provided that "every other dog" should be killed. The difficulty is to distinguish the "other" dogs.

—A man in Detroit was found overcome by whiskey, and had to be carried home on a sleigh. A boy who supposed the man was dead, ran and informed his wife, who met the crowd at the gate, and, in broken accents, inquired of one of the men: "Do you think I ought to present this life insurance policy to the agent this afternoon?" She seemed quite disappointed when she learned the facts.

—The Italian papers say that peddlers in Catholic districts are selling bits of straw, alleging them to have been taken from a dungeon in Rome, where the Pope was confined by the Italian Government.

—A correspondent of London Times is pleased to notice the rarity of railway accidents in America as compared with other civilized and progressive countries.

TELEGRAPH DISPATCHES.

The Price of Gold.

PORTLAND, Nov. 19.—Gold in New York to-day, 106¼; Portland Legal Tender rates,—90 buying, and 91½ selling.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

—It is about equally dangerous to take advice from your enemies and give it to your friends.

—Prompt and speedy action is the indispensible condition of leadership and its necessary price.

—Ida Gregg, a twelve-year-old girl in in Buffalo, cleared two dollars by selling button-hole bouquets, and contributed the money to the fund of the Memphis sufferers.

—The lecture which Thomas Nast, the artist, will deliver this winter, is on caricaturing, and is interspersed with drawings of nearly life size, done by Mr. Nast, in crayon before the audience. Among the sketches are those of Burton, the comedian, to whose facial contortions Mr. Nast, when a boy of ten years, first concentrated his attention and drawings; Andrew Johnson, in the royal robes and crown of Cæsar, Butler, and many others. While drawing these, which only take a few minutes to each, Mr. Nast shows the prominent points of features that would be seized upon by a caricaturist, and with a stroke transforms the face or figure into a gross caricature. The money-bag of Tweed, and how it was transformed into a likeness of the Tammany chief by a few strokes, and the placing of a $ mark on it, is one of the drawings.

—People are talking of the way in which the brilliant French physician the late Dr. Nelaton, used to perform operations. While most finely accurate, he was also calm and cool to a marvel. One of his doctrines was that there was no danger when a correct diagnosis had been made, and when the surgeon knew what he was about. "If you have the misfortune to cut an artery," he would say, "remember that syncope will not occur for two minutes, and death only about as long after. Four minutes is four times as long as is necessary to place a ligature on a blood vessel, provided that you do not hurry." Never to hurry was one of the elements of his power. Once upon a time he gave voice to a clever paradox, which deserves to be remembered by all surgeons. "You are going too quick," he said to an assistant; "we have no time to lose."

—Thomas H. Merry, lecturer of the California State Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, advises the farmers of Humboldt county to erect a beet sugar factory, and turn their attention to the cultivation of the sugar beet. The arguments he advances will apply to many other counties besides Humboldt, and are well worthy to be considered. He says: "An extensive sugarie in this county would open a new era of prosperity to the farmers, as well as be a blessing to the consumers of that staple. It would require to keep it running 100,000 tons of beets, which, at $5 per ton would give the farmers half a million of dollars for the beets, without any expense except that of their cultivation and hauling to the factory, which would be chiefly done by themselves —no sacks, no shipping, no middlemen to charge commissions, but the farmer would realize the proceeds of all he produced. The rich lands above mentioned would, with proper cultivation, produce from 16 to 20 tons per acre, which, at $5 per ton, would soon pay the cost of a first-class farm."