

POLK COUNTY OBSERVER.

VOL. I.

MONMOUTH, POLK COUNTY, OREGON, SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1888.

NO. 4.

A SOLUTION of copperas applied to wool will render it very hard and durable.

THE President has nominated G. J. Denis, of California, to be Attorney of the United States for the Southern District of California.

THE first iron boat is said to have been built in 1777, on the River Foss, in Yorkshire. It was fifteen feet long and made of sheet iron.

GOLD-BEATING is about the only trade that has not been affected by machinery. The work is done to-day just as it was three centuries ago.

THE cattle trust of Denver has just closed a contract with the French Government to supply the French army with 150,000 head of beef cattle annually.

THE world consumes 2,165,000,000 bushels of wheat annually; so the yield of the Pacific Coast is only a drop in the bucket, with its 60,000,000 to 75,000,000 bushels.

IT has been ascertained, through reports from the various County Superintendents, that the number of persons frozen to death in Dakota in the recent blizzard was 109.

JUDGE STRATTON, of Lamar, Mo., has decided that women temperance workers may dispense free coffee and sandwiches at an election without being accused of intimidation or bribery.

THE Eads Ship Railway Company recently held a meeting and reported highly encouraging prospects. It is estimated that \$25,000,000 will be required to complete the Tehuantepec Railway.

JOHN FINNUCAN stole a coat in Detroit, and the *Free Press* chronicled the fact, spelling the name Finnegan. Thereupon John Finnegan sued the paper for libel and recovered \$1,500 damages.

CALIFORNIA has 20,000 acres of orange trees and Florida 80,000 acres. The crop now ripening on California trees is estimated at 1,900,000 boxes, whereas Florida's crop is placed at 1,100,000 boxes.

THOUSANDS of blind crows were seen in the woods and fields near Chattanooga recently, and people had no difficulty in approaching and seizing them. No one knows what caused their blindness.

CALIFORNIA has about doubled her population in the ten years since the last census. The enormous sums of money spent by the different counties and cities in advertising abroad has been the cause of the vast increase in population.

DELEGATE DUBOIS states that he has received many protests against reduction of the tariff on lead. He says if the tariff on that article be removed or reduced to the extent proposed, it will have a disastrous effect upon the mining interests of Idaho.

A MONUMENT which will cost \$2,000,000 will soon be erected in Panama to the memory of General Bolivar, the liberator of Bolivia, Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, and Venezuela. Each of the five Republics will contribute \$400,000 for the purpose.

THE Secretary of the Treasury has transmitted to the House estimates of the cost of collecting the customs revenues for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1889, aggregating \$6,896,203. Of this amount \$5,219,618 is for salaries, and \$1,676,585 for miscellaneous expenses. The expenses of the port of New York are estimated at \$2,168,947.

LARGE quantities of antimony come from the ancient mines worked by the Romans for gold. It is probable that these mines will become in future the chief source of this metal, so far as its consumption in Great Britain is concerned. Antimony ore, however, is very widely distributed. It is generally found associated with other ores, more especially with lead, zinc and silver. It is a constant source of trouble to the smelter on account of the difficulty with which it is eliminated. Antimony is chiefly used as an alloy with other metals. Mixed with lead it forms type metal; mixed with tin it is employed for music type. It is also alloyed with copper for bearings, and is found in pewter.

TELEGRAPHIC.

An Epitome of the Principal Events Now Attracting Public Interest.

King Humbert, of Italy, has given \$8,000 to flood sufferers.

Jacob Sharp, the hoodler chief, died at his home in New York.

L. H. Orndorf, a brakeman, was killed at Heaton, Arizona.

General Terry has been placed on the retired list of the army.

Fred. Layton has donated \$250,000 to the city of Milwaukee for an art gallery.

The jail at Friar's Point, Tenn., was fired by incendiaries, and five prisoners perished.

Clarkson, the famous base ball pitcher, has been sold to the Boston club for \$10,000.

The Venezuelan Government has issued a decree placing barbed wire on the free list.

Laura Colvert, 22 years of age, was burned to death near Waco, Texas. She started a fire with benzine.

As the result of a domestic quarrel at Kansas City, Ellsworth Setzer shot his wife and then killed himself.

At Lima, Ohio, Patrick Hughes, Dave Gallagher and James Stokely were stabbed to death in a fight with two colored men.

Kate Warner, the pretty daughter of John Warner, a wealthy farmer of Schoharie county, N. Y., committed suicide by cutting her throat.

John L. Eby committed suicide at Lancaster, Pa. That brought the number of suicides in that county within six weeks up to eight.

At Phoenix, Arizona, the roof of D. S. Bewley's adobe residence fell in, burying Mr. Bewley, his daughter and son. Mr. Bewley and daughter are reported dead, and the boy will probably die.

Mrs. Tillie Sipp, aged 35, while in a fit of temporary insanity, threw her 12-year-old son George out of a fourth-story window in New York city, and jumped after him. Both were fatally hurt.

It is stated that Claus Spreckels, the California sugar king, will build a sugar refinery in Philadelphia to cost \$5,000,000. The capacity of the proposed refinery is said to be 7,000 barrels or 2,900,000 pounds per day.

At Texarkana, Ark., the three-year-old son of Dr. H. R. Webster swallowed a portion of the contents of an acetic bottle and died in twenty minutes. Two other children drank the remainder, but were not affected.

A Chicago & Alton freight train was boarded by three thieves at Chicago, and Watchmen Eli D. Kreigh and Dan Brassill, who attempted to put them off, were fired upon. Kreigh was instantly killed, and Brassill was mortally wounded.

A frightful accident occurred on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad near New Hampton, Iowa. A bridge had been carried away by a gorge, and a passenger train plunged into the stream, while running at full speed. The engine and three coaches went into the creek, and were immediately submerged in the torrent of water which overflowed the banks. A scene of the wildest confusion ensued. There were about thirty people in the smother. Four were killed, so far as known, besides the engineer, who was crushed between the cab and smoker. The fireman escaped unhurt. There were from twenty-five to thirty-five wounded. The belief is that several bodies are yet under the wreck.

A special from Celaya, Mexico, details a terrible catastrophe. When the bull ring was crowded with spectators of the general national sport, fire broke out and a panic seized upon the vast assemblage. The plaza was constructed of wooden mast, reeds, etc., and it was due to this fact that the majority escaped without injury, being able to force an opening to permit an exit at different points, but many women and children jumped from the top, a distance of twenty to thirty feet, and over 100 persons were seriously wounded. Eighteen lives were lost. The sides of the plaza being lined with matting as dry as tinder, and there being a slight wind blowing the amphitheater was in a blaze in a few seconds. Fifty persons in escaping were knocked down and trampled upon by the panic-stricken throng and seriously injured. The bulls, maddened by the roaring of the flames, broke loose from their stalls and rushed wildly through the surging mass of humanity, tossing aloft and knocking over all who stood in their way. Two women were first gored to death by the bulls and their bodies afterwards burned. The scenes in the neighborhood of the catastrophe were sickening beyond description. Women and children, divested of their clothing and crazed with suffering from their burns, ran aimlessly through the streets and could scarcely be overtaken or collected by friends. Several persons lost their reason from the severe mental shock to which they were subjected. The fire was incendiary.

OREGON NEWS.

Everything of General Interest in a Condensed Form.

The vote of Willamette county is between 800 and 900.

Grant's Pass has an elevation of 965 feet above sea level.

A postoffice has been established at Fern, Curry county.

John H. Mires was killed by a fall from his barn near Oakland.

The salmon run at Astoria is light, but the fish are larger than usual.

The residence of George Anderton, near The Dalles, was destroyed by fire.

The little daughter of Ben Franklin, at Bandon, fell and broke her right arm above the wrist.

A new postoffice, called Crater, with D. A. Findley as postmaster, has been established at Upper Deschutes.

There are 159 licensed saloons in the city of Portland, 12 in Albina and 12 in East Portland, making a total in the three cities of 183.

The manager of a creamery at St. Paul, Minnesota, who was in Portland recently and stated that the annual sales there by his establishment foot up \$150,000.

At Oregon City a plant for the manufacture of cement is being put in at a cost of \$40,000. The rock is found in Douglas county, and is said to be inexhaustible.

The Indians on the Klamath agency met in council recently to consider the advisability of taking land in severalty. The result was that 600 voted in favor of the project.

The gross receipts of the Portland postoffice for the year ending March 31, amounted to \$88,573 42. This is about \$10,000 more than the receipts of any previous year.

The Democratic State Convention at Pendleton nominated J. M. Gearin, of Portland, for Congress. Cleveland was endorsed for President, and Governor Pennoyer for Vice-President.

Postoffices have been established at Aurick, Benton county, and at Grove City, Malheur county. Jas. A. Wood and John T. Tilson were appointed postmasters of the respective offices.

Andy Hickson and a companion lost their boat, traps, blankets, stores and \$500 worth of beaver skins on the Nehalem river, and were three days in the rain, with nothing to eat but raw potatoes.

At Paisley, says a Lakeview paper, a son of Mrs. Miller was accidentally shot in the shoulder with a shotgun in the hands of another boy. Physicians amputated the arm, taking off part of the shoulder. The boy died the following day.

The stockyards now being at The Dalles by the O. R. & N. Co. will be the best between Portland and St. Paul, says a local paper. They will hold thirty carloads of cattle, are fixed for taking care of sheep, will have sheds for horses and arrangements made for fine stock. Nearly 100,000 feet of lumber will be used in their construction.

Dick Wells fatally shot himself at the farm house of M. A. Walker, near Ashland. The bullet passed through the stomach and lungs, and caused death in a few hours. To his mother and others he said the shooting was not an accident; he had been wanting to die for three years. Farther than this he gave no reason for his rash act. Deceased was 22 years of age.

Governor Pennoyer granted full pardon to Pearl Page, recently sentenced to a year in the penitentiary for robbery, the reason being assigned as follows: "Whereas, the jury which tried the said Pearl Page, brought into court a verdict to the effect that what said Pearl Page did in the matter charged against her she did under the influence of coercion of another person; and, whereas, as the said jury has unanimously petitioned for the exercise of executive clemency by the granting of a pardon," which he does, "upon the express condition that she shall immediately leave the State and remain forever therefrom."

Last fall, says the *Willamette Signal*, a camp of thirty-four Chinese moved on one of the bars on Snake river, just above the junction of the Innaha with that river, to spend the winter mining for gold. When they moved there it was known they had a large boat and a good supply of provisions, and, it is estimated, about \$30,000 in gold dust. The bar on which they had encamped is very isolated, and since spring has opened a party of men passing one day noticed no one around the camp, and on investigation found the bodies of two Chinamen who had undoubtedly been killed by shooting in the head, and the other Chinamen were nowhere to be seen. Their tents were blown down, and after being taken up revealed a large amount of provisions and mining utensils, which had been used but very little. The boat was missing, and everything looked as if it had been deserted for some time. On the bank near the river were found several small piles of cartridge shells, which seem to have been thrown out together, and with which the awful deed must have been committed.

AGRICULTURAL.

Devoted to the Interests of Farmers and Stockmen.

The Young Cow.

Some cows may be naturally vicious, but nearly all viciousness is the result of ill treatment. Calving is a severe nervous strain and leaves the cow nervous and irritable. If the calf is her first one she is very much afraid that it will be injured; in this she is like all young mothers. Milking is an entirely new operation to her; likely drawing milk from her udder gives her pain. Her condition, her fears, and the operation, all call for the exercise of the greatest patience and gentleness. But instead, her solicitude for her calf is resented, if she shows shyness when it is attempted to milk her—an operation which she knows nothing of and which her instincts to nourish her offspring would cause her not to submit to readily she is scolded; if the pain caused by the milk being drawn leads her to kick, she is kicked in return. Thus her fright and nervousness are increased and soon she is angered. If this treatment is continued she is made vicious; and we have never known of a heifer being "conquered" in this way. After her tormentor has worn himself out she is yet ready to kick, or to use her horns if need be. It does not do better to tie her head or to put her between poles; this only frightens her the more. Her temper is ruined; and a cow, no matter how liberal a milker she may be, is fit for the shambles only if she is vicious. It is no rare thing for a man to throw \$50 to the wind by striking a young cow.

A successful poultry man says he spades up his "run" twice a year.

Fifty years ago the average weight of beef cattle was 800 pounds; now it is 1,400 pounds.

Raw milk digests in a shorter period than boiled milk; hence milk for young stock should not be boiled but warmed.

It is the advice of a prominent dairyman to farmers not to keep cows that give less than 600 gallons of milk a year.

In some of our northern counties there has been as much as 350 bushels of potatoes raised to the acre. This was on rich land, but with the right kind of fertilizer and good cultivation our common pine land will produce from 100 to 200 bushels.

Rotation of crops baffles in a measure the root-enemies, both insect and fungus, that prey upon them. Each plant has its own peculiar enemies, and changing of plants removes them to fields unoccupied by such enemies. This is true of the enemies of above-ground growth of plants to an important degree.

Alfalfa and apricot leaves make first class green food for poultry, and in fact, any of the domestic animals or pets. Alfalfa is cheaper and easier to raise than any garden truck that we know of, and is green the year round, while the apricot prunings (cut any time after the fruit is off) come at a time when other green feed is exceptionally scarce.

PORTLAND PRODUCE MARKET.

BUTTER		
Fancy roll, # lb.	30	
Oregon	28	
Inferior grade	15 @ 20	
Pickled	18 @ 21	
California roll	28 @ 35	
do pickled	28 @ 35	
CHEESE		
Eastern, full cream	16 @ 20	
Oregon, do	14 @ 16	
California	12 @ 14	
do	10 @ 12	
DRIED FRUITS		
Apples, qrs, sds and bxs	6 @ 6	
do California	6 @ 6	
Apricots, new crop	18 @ 25	
Peaches, unpeeled, new	12 @ 14	
Pears, machine dried	10 @ 10	
Pitted cherries	40 @ 40	
Pitted plums, Oregon	12 @ 12	
Figs, Cal., in bgs and bxs	8 @ 9	
Cal. Prunes, French	8 @ 10	
Oregon prunes	10 @ 12	
FLOUR		
Portland Pat. Roller, # bbl	4 00	
Salem do	4 00	
White Lily # bbl	4 25	
Country brand	3 50 @ 3 75	
Superfine	2 40 @ 2 75	
GRAIN		
Wheat, Valley, # 100 lbs.	1 22 @ 1 25	
do Walla Walla	1 15 @ 1 16	
Barley, whole, # cbl.	1 12	
do ground, # ton	20 00 @ 25 00	
Oats, choice milling # bush	47 @ 50	
do feed, good to choice, old	46 @ 47	
Rye, # 100 lbs.	1 10 @ 1 25	
BRAND		
Wheat, # ton	16 00 @ 17 00	
Shorts, # ton	15 00 @ 16 00	
Hay, # ton, baled	18 00	
Chop, # ton	23 00 @ 25 00	
Oil cake meal # ton	32 00 @ 33 00	
FEED FACTS		
Apples, Oregon, # box	1 25 @ 1 50	
Cherries, Oregon, # drn.	4 00 @ 4 50	
Limes, # 100	1 25	
Diversified oranges, # box	6 @ 6	
Los Angeles, do do	6 @ 6	
Peaches, # box	6 @ 6	
HIDES		
Dry, over 16 lbs, # lb.	11 @ 12	
Wet salted, over 35 lbs.	7 @ 8	
Murrah hides	10 @ 12 25	
FELT		
Vegetables		
Cabbage, # lb.	2	
Carrots, # sack	1 00	
Cauliflower, # doz.	1 10	
Onions	75	
Potatoes, new, # 100 lbs.	16 @ 18	
Wool		
East Oregon, Spring clip.	15 @ 18	
Valley Oregon, do	15 @ 19	

COAST CULLINGS.

Devoted Principally to Washington Territory and California.

An unknown man was killed by a train in Sacramento.

An unknown tramp was killed by a train near Gilroy, Cal.

J. L. Smith was shot and instantly killed by his wife at Hailey, Idaho.

Frank Thompson committed suicide at Los Angeles by cutting his throat.

There 259 dogs of various breeds on exhibition at the San Francisco bench show.

L. C. Geiser, ticket agent at Tacoma, was bound and gagged, and the office robbed of \$243.

A man named Edward Newer was run over and killed by a freight train at Merced, Cal.

Annie Westerfield, two years old, was run over and killed by a train at San Francisco.

Col. Robert G. Ingersoll, wife and two daughters are on a three months' tour in California.

Manuela Gomez, a Mexican woman, was fatally injured by a runaway team near Los Angeles.

An old man named Peter Olsen was kicked and fatally injured by a horse in San Francisco.

Cash on hand in the United States Sub-Treasury at San Francisco on March 31 was \$55,170,000.

The streets of Traver, Cal., were flooded to a depth of two feet, from a break in the levee of the 76 canal.

Lottie, the four-year-old daughter of H. N. Gastin, of Chico, Cal., was killed by a sack of wheat falling upon her.

Gus Hanson, a sailor on the schooner Robert and Jennie, fell overboard and was drowned in San Francisco bay.

Enoch G. Kellogg fell down a chute in the Lexington mine, at Butte, Montana, a distance of 100 feet and was instantly killed.

Mrs. Pyle and Jimmy Heller and John Hern, her sons, were arrested at Walla Walla, charged with setting fire to the Aurora hotel in that city.

A child of Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Tash was killed in a runaway accident near Sacramento. The parents were taking the baby to church to have it baptized.

Jenny Kimball, a young artist, committed suicide at Colton, Cal., by taking morphine. The coroner's jury found that the cause was unrequited love.

Frank Nedro captured a shark on the beach on Guemes island, W. T., which measured seven feet in length and weighed between 200 and 300 pounds.

The Walla Walla paper says it is rumored that John Steinbach and John Edgar, who went out on a winter's hunt, were found in the John Day country frozen to death.

The work on the Ilwaco & Shoalwater Bay Railroad includes 3,000 feet of trestle and roadway at Ilwaco, 1,000 feet along the line, and the removal of 65,000 cubic yards of earth.

The election held at W. J. Wells, Cal., to issue \$750,000 worth of bonds, under the Wright bill, was carried by a vote of seven to one. This will construct a ditch this coming summer sixty feet wide, five feet deep and fifty miles long, and will put under irrigation 200,000 acres, with abundant water from the Sacramento river.

At Centralia, W. T., the 9-year-old daughter of Mr. Beach, while out playing with other children, took a newly-sharpened butcher-knife to cut a switch. While returning to the house upon the point of it, which pierced her breast near the heart. She lived but a minute, dying without a struggle.

A collision occurred on the Southern Pacific road near San Fernando, Cal. Westfield, engineer of a construction train, and Brooks, fireman of a freight train, were killed. Engineer Teasle, of the freight, had a leg so badly crushed that amputation will be necessary. Fitzgerald and Gegeria, graders, were badly hurt, and Bernardo, a Mexican, was probably fatally injured. Three large engines and many cars were totally wrecked.

The steamer Bob Irving, engaged in general transportation and towing business, was blown to pieces on the Skagit river by the explosion of her boiler. The steamer Lily happened to be in hearing distance at the time, and went to the Irving's assistance. It was found that the latter was wrecked, and that by the explosion the master and owner—Captain Olney—and his fireman had been killed. The engineer, a deck hand and a Chinese cook were badly injured. The steamer was loaded with hay and oats, which were scattered in every direction. The boiler was hurled completely out of the boat and lodged on the bank of the river. The head of the captain was severed from his body. No traces could be found of the remains of the fireman. There is some doubt as to the cause of the explosion, but it is believed that the water in the boiler was allowed to get too low. The report of the explosion was heard for some miles in the surrounding country.

CHINESE AILMENTS.

Dyspepsia the Most Prevalent in the Long List of Diseases.

Medical work in the capital of China does not differ very much from the ordinary run of practice in any large city of the United States. Owing to the healthfulness of the climate the natives, as a rule, enjoy very good health. By far the most frequent cases that come to the dispensary are those relating to the digestive tract. One who has ever seen the Chinese eat will not wonder at this. A bowl of food is placed under the chin and the contents scooped into the mouth with most astonishing rapidity. The process is repeated until bowlful after bowlful has disappeared, the only limit as to quantity seemingly being the amount which can be got hold of.

The poorer classes depend chiefly on rice for food, getting the necessary nitrogenous elements not from meat, but from a curd made from beans. On this simple diet it is astonishing what an amount of work a coolie will do.

Hence, both rapidity of eating and the quantity consumed tend to produce all the forms of distress after meals, that are classed under the head of dyspepsia. In fact, the Chinaman whose "heart's-mouth" has never pained is seldom to be met with. This "heart's-mouth" is a favorite locality with the Chinese as a seat of disease.

The native doctors know nothing of the dissection of the human body, and their notion of its construction and operations is based chiefly on the imagination. To the Chinese anatomist everything below the skin is a "terra incognita." The brain he puts in the stomach, the seat of courage is in the liver, the bladder communicates directly with the mouth by a tube into which all liquids swallowed find their way, while a hole in the heart has some mysterious relations with the stomach, and to this orifice is ascribed much of the pain consequent on indigestion.

In this connection I must not fail to speak of "worms." This is not an attractive subject to the general reader, but an important one to study up for any one expecting to practice medicine in China. The native, be he rich or poor, young or old, who does not harbor specimens of the tenia or lumbricoides would, if the facts were known, be a living curiosity to his astonished countrymen. There is also a great deal of dysentery in summer, mainly due to eating unripe fruit.

The other day a neighbor came in and got some medicine for his wife, who had had this trouble for several days. I told him not to allow his better half to eat any fruit, and he promised to pay attention to this—him—unnecessary restriction. After a day or so the man came in again, and complained that the patient was not any better. He said she had been very careful of her diet, and had eaten nothing but watermelon.—*Medical Missionary Record.*

WIT AND WISDOM.

—Anxiety about the opinions of others fetters our freedom of action.

—It wonderfully softens the pain of making a mistake to be the first to find it out.

—Neutrality, in a question of right and wrong, is already alliance with the wrong.

—Don't tell the doctor what's the matter with you. It's his business to find out.

—No matter how honest and upright a man a carpenter may be, he is seldom without at least one vice.

—When a man owes a good round sum he sometimes finds it extremely hard to square up.—*New Haven News.*

—It is not the storm which breaks the image of Heaven in the stream, but the million pebbles over which it chafes.—*Mrs. Charles.*

—More than ten million eggs are carried into New York each week. One might be tempted to think this an oversupply.—*Boston Transcript.*

—Poverty is a bully, if you are afraid of her or tremble before her. Poverty is good-natured enough if you meet her like a man.—*Thackeray.*

—It may be true that "money makes the mare go," but it's a complete certainty on the race track that the mare makes money go.—*Merchant Traveler.*