POLK COUNTY OBSERVER.

VOL. I. MONMOUTH, POLK COUNTY, OREGON, SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1888. NO. 14.

WHILE fighting a grass fire at Carrollton, Ohio, Mrs. Susan Hess was burned to death.

THE production of pig-iron in the United States in 1887 was 6,417,148 gross tons, the largest in the history of the country.

THE richest child in America is said to be May Sharpless, a little miss of 9 years, who is worth $9,000,000 in her own right. Ex-Gov. Leon Abbett, of New Jersey, is her guardian, her father being dead.

WM. MCPHERSON, of Greene County, Ohio, has four young hogs that can't hear it thunder. They will stand perfectly still while a gun is fired right over their heads. They have no ears, and no signs of any, though in other respects they are well-shaped pigs.

IT is said that Mommsen, the historian of the Romans, when walking along the streets of Berlin, keeps his eyes fixed on the ground and pays no attention to the salutations of those acquaintances who meet him. He is in his 71st year.

MISS ELIZA BLISS, of Rehobath, Conn., invited an applicant for charity into her house the other day. While she was preparing food the tramp sang, "Nearer, My God, to Thee," and at the same time stole the lady's pocket-book and $25 from the bureau drawer.

A PLASTER cast of a fossil egg, found in the tertiary strata of the Island of Madagascar, the original of which was in the Paris Academy of Sciences, belongs to the National Museum at Washington. It is thirty-four and one-half inches one way and twenty inches the other.

ABOUT 2,500 words are all that are used in ordinary talking and conversation, although there are some 20,000 words in the English language. Different authors vary in the number of the words they use, but the difference is but slight. Shakspere found 4,000 words sufficient for all his works.

THE cooling effect of ice is actually dependent upon its melting, as in this process the heat which causes it to melt is absorbed from the surrounding bodies. A pound of ice in melting will absorb sufficient heat to cool a pound of water from 174 degrees Fahrenheit to a freezing point, or to cool 142 pounds of water one degree.

THE city of Liverpool is to be supplied with water from a reservoir in Wales which is to be four and one-half miles long by a half mile to a mile broad, and eighty feet deep. There will be three lines of pipe, each sixty-eight miles long, with filtering beds and secondary reservoirs. The acqueduct alone will cost $15,000,000.

MORTAR made in the following manner will stand if used in almost all sorts of weather. One bushel of unslaked lime; three bushels of sharp sand; mix one pound of alum with one pint of linseed oil, and thoroughly mix this with the mortar when making it, and use hot. The alum will counteract the action of the frost on the mortar.

MISS ALMEDA TAFT, of Sadorus, Ill., has a canary bird that snores. Abo
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TELEGRAPHIC.

An Epitome of the Principal Events Now Attracting Public Interest.

Seven persons were killed by a collision on the Wabash, Hannibal & St. Joe railway, near Kansas City, Mo.

J. T. Stroope, of Junction City, Texas, was brutally murdered by two unknown persons.

Richard Mitchell, employed in sliding logs in Provo canyon, Utah, was killed, being struck by a log.

Mrs. Eliza Lewis, an aged woman and her three grandchildren were smothered to death in a house at Cleveland, Ohio.

At Ashland, Wis., Wm. Andrews shot and killed his wife. He then shot himself, but not fatally, but finished the tragedy by drawing a razor across his throat.

James Dobie, a middle aged Englishman, shot and fatally wounded his wife at a hotel in Pullman, Ill. She had left him several months ago on account of his general worthlessness.

A collision occurred between a passenger and freight train, twenty miles from Barcelona, Spain. Three persons were killed and forty-six injured, several of whom have died.

Wm. J. McFarland, of Cleveland, Ohio, quarreled with his wife, while under the influence of liquor. In his fury he drew a revolver, shot his wife and three-year-old daughter, and then shot himself. All are dead.

A barn belonging to A. M. Forbes, and located on West Monroe street, Chicago, burned. Seventy horses were suffocated, and several people barely escaped with their lives. The loss is about $22,000.

Sergeant James White, of Company C, stationed at Fort Gibson, I. T., met with a fatal accident. He was holding a stake in his hand, when a horse kicked at him and drove the stake through his body. He died instantly.

A cyclone swept over Brownston, Texas, destroying the Methodist, Baptist and Congregational churches and eight dwellings. One person was killed, and eight, including the sheriff and county recorder, were fatally wounded.

A man named Likens at Springfield, Mo., crushed the heads of his two children, a boy and girl, aged respectively nine and eleven years, with an axe, and then cut his own throat with a pocket-knife. He expired in ten minutes.

William Bullock, an employ of
West Shore railroad at
Wayne county, New York
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While the officers were all at dinner thieves kicked in a window of the Pratt County Bank, at Pratt, Kas., and got away with $4,016, all in currency. Precaution had been taken to partly turn the combination of the safe.

William Kenniston, an old farmer at North Booth Bay, Maine, was murdered by Llewellyn Quimby, aged 20. The murderer was captured after a desperate fight, during which he received a severe scalp wound from a shot fired by A. H. Kenniston, his victim's son.

A terrible tragedy is reported from Osceola, Ark. A widow named Allen was ravished and murdered, and her 16-year-old boy and 10-year-old girl were fatally injured, by four miscreants. Four young white farmers who attended a dance in the neighborhood Saturday night have been arrested on suspicion.

COAST CULLINGS.

Devoted Principally to Washington Territory and California.

Henry Schussler, aged 14, was drowned while bathing at Napa, Cal.

Fire broke out in Palouse City, W. T., that consumed the entire eastern portion of the town. Half of the business houses are destroyed.

Joe Charest was drowned in the Sacramento river opposite Red Bluff, Cal. He was in swimming, took cramps, sank and did not rise again.

Ignatius Kehrer, brother-in-law of ex-State Treasurer Wiel, fell dead from a wagon, of heart disease, at Sacramento, Cal.

Turner Purdum, while fishing on some rocks a mile south of Santa Cruz, Cal., was washed off by the surf and drowned.

In a baseball game at Monterey, Cal., John Tyman, while running basis, slipped and fell, breaking his leg.

Frank Lagrove, driver of a brewery wagon, who was thrown into the street by a runaway team, died from the effect of his injuries at San Francisco.

A brakeman named J. F. Brown was killed while walking on top of a freight train at Summit, Cal. Brown was caught under a snowshed, and the top of his head was taken off.

Henry Peterson, of San Francisco, and Wm. Payne, of Victoria, B. C., have signed articles for a 75
match at Victoria, on June
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$150 for expenses.

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a wooden structure, was 32x40 feet in dimensions, and was literally blown to pieces. The men being at dinner, there was no loss of life.

H. S. Wheeler, recently employed by the government in the construction of lighthouses on the Oregon coast, dropped dead of heart disease at Alameda, Cal. Deceased who was a member of the Masonic order, is about 55 years of age, and a widower.

A three-story brick building owned by the Sharon estate, and occupied by the West Coast Furniture Co., burned at San Francisco. The loss to the building is estimated at $50,000. The Furniture Co.'s loss is $15,000, insurance $10,000. A finely wrought cabinet intended to hold cereals to be sent to the Sydney exposition from this State, and valued at $2,000, was destroyed. The furniture factory of A. Johnson, and the carpenter shop of John Cuff, adjoining, were damaged to the extent of $1,000.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Legislation Pertaining to the Interest of the Pacific Coast.

HOUSE.

Hatch, from the committee of agriculture, moved that the rules be suspended and the bill passed to enlarge the powers and duties of the department of agriculture, and to create an executive department, to be known
the department of agriculture; p 44

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TORN PAGES

The reason of this is because the place is never there after the first strike.—*Drake's Magazine.*

—"Night-caps are coming into favor again," say the fashion journals. Bless those innocent fashion writers; "night-caps" have never been out of favor. Ask the bartenders.—*Boston Globe.*

—"How would I advise you to begin?" responded an old actor to an aspirant for stage glories. "Well, the best plan is to begin like a good dinner; with the supe."—*N. Y. Tribune.*

—The milky way—'Hol' on, boy! Don't put no water in dem cans today. Fill 'em up wid snow. Dat's de same color as de milk, an' we must be jes as hones' as we kin, whenever we git de chance."—*Harper's Bazar.*

—The old adage is good in these days of progress and innovation: "Do not be the first by whom the new is tried, nor yet the last to cast the old aside."

OREGON NEWS.

Everyt ing of General Interest in a Condensed Form.

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t ing the levee along the Umatilla
er.

The wife and child of Hon. J. D. Burnett, of Douglas county, are very sick.

W. P. Watson, of Toledo, fell from a building, on which he was working, and fractured one of his ribs.

Henry Keene, of Sublimity, set a spring gun for gophers, and while explaining its operation to a friend lost one of his thumbs by its unexpected discharge.

G. W. Duncan, a prominent citizen of Stayton, who suffered severe injuries by falling from a step-ladder some days since, is not expected to recover.

The House committee on commerce made a favorable report of the bill an

appointed by the company.

A warrant was sworn out before Justice Lyons of Fox Valley, Linn county, charging Mart Smith, his brother, and another man, whose name could not be learned, with the attempted murder of Charles Thomas, two weeks since. They are now in custody. The Smiths are enemies of the Thomases, and are supposed to be leaders of the vigilance committe sworn to exterminate them or make them leave the country.

Bennett camp, No. 8, Indian War Veterans, near Salem, have elected the following officers: John G. Wright, captain; John Savage, first lieutenant; N. R. Doty, second lieutenant; T. C. Shaw, orderly sergeant; E. H. Piper, commissary sergeant; D. C. Thomas, color bearer; Wm. Townsend, musician; E. J. Chambers, corporal of the guard; delegates to the state encampment, Frank M. Smith and T. C. Shaw.

AGRICULTURAL.

Devoted to the Interests of Farmers and Stockmen.

Saving the cream daily until enough for a churning has accumulated is wrong. The best butter is made from cream that has been recently removed from the milk.

A good deal is said about the "dairy form" of the cow. But it must not be taken for granted that every angular cow is a good milker, and every smooth, straight-lined cow a poor one.

After the hen is set and process of incubation begun, it is desirable that nothing disturb the hen. Every precaution should be taken to keep her setting steadily until time for the eggs to hatch.

According to some experiments recently made in Holland, cattle fed on hay with other food increased in live weight more than those fed with ensilage, but those fed with ensilage
butter.

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in gardening, as in courtship lies in small attentions frequently and steadily bestowed.

Mr. D. B. Widr, says he has solved the problem of the plum curculio. A mixture of one pound of Paris green, or London purple, and sixty gallons of water sprayed over the trees just before blossom buds shall open, then a spraying of soap emulsion two weeks later, with a third spraying about June 10th, will effectually destroy the curculio, as well as kill leaf lice, aphis and other injurious insects.

There are in America over 4,000,000 farms, large and small. They cover nearly 20,000,000 acres of improved land, and their total value is something like $10,000,000,000. These figures are not, of course, very comprehensive. They simply convey the idea of vastness of area and equal vastness of importance. The estimated value of the yearly products of these farms is between $2,000,000,000 and $3,000,000,000.