

# POLK COUNTY OBSERVER.

VOL. I.

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NO. 25.

MORE than two hundred thousand bird skins are now shown at the Natural History Museum in London.

AN immense swarm of bees took possession of Samuel S. Brown's house in Northfield, L. I. The family was driven out, and the bees had to be smoked out.

THE other night a policeman in Chicago was startled by the appearance of what he thought was a ghost, but which proved to be a young lady who had got up in her sleep, and was walking the streets.

THE lightning which almost demolished the house of Mr. Brautly at Servia, Ga., the other day, harmed none of the family, although a young son was within a foot or two of the place where the bolt first fell.

AT Little Rock, S. C., Mrs. Verein, aged 25, gave whisky and chloroform to her husband, a man of sixty, and when this failed to kill him she dosed him with pounded glass. That killed him, and the young woman is now in jail.

A JAMAICA, N. Y., young lady for some time past has placed her engagement ring in the toe of her shoe every night for safe keeping. A day or two ago she took the shoe to a cobbler for repairs, but did not miss her ring until the honest shoemaker restored it to her.

A WOMAN in Argentine, Mich., has terrorized the whole neighborhood. She keeps fire-arms in her house to shoot any one who tries to arrest her; her landlord cannot collect his rent, and no one dares to refuse her anything she asks for fear lest she will kill him or set his house on fire.

A WELL-KNOWN Belfast, Me., firm, recently received a car-load of white wool from Tennessee. When the car was opened a hen was found inside, nearly dead. After some care Biddy came to and is now all right. The car was between two and three weeks in transit.

FRANK DESHON, while at Lake Minnetonka lately, in looking for frogs for bait, caught one which a scientist, who happened to see it, paid \$1 for. The peculiarity of the frog was that it had no left eye nor a place for one, and the man who bought it will have it stuffed and exhibit it as a curiosity.

A BIDEFORD, ME., family had breakfast for supper the other night, and while sawing away on a piece that seemed tougher than usual one of the family found an army and navy cent firmly imbedded in the meat. It is supposed the cent was shot into the ox, and that the wound healed afterward healed.

THE big Nova Scotia timber raft, whose owners are not alarmed at the fate of the Leary raft, will soon be launched and started on its way to New York City. It is made of 30,000 sticks bound together, making a raft 700 feet long, with spars from 25 to 175 feet in length. It will be towed and will also be manned and rigged to sail.

TWO perfectly pure white birds, which were caught in Galena, Ill., have been examined by local ornithologists, who pronounce them genuine. These exceedingly rare specimens of the feathered tribe are about two-thirds grown, and were taken from a nest known to have been built by robins of the ordinary red-breasted variety.

ETHEL JONES, of China, Maine, had been set out doors by her mother, when she was heard to scream. Running quickly, her mother saw a rooster striking at her head, and the blood coming down over her face. She found three large holes deuced into her head, made by his spurs, and she thought he would have killed the child had he not rescued her.

ACCORDING to a writer in Blackie's Magazine the gypsies of Transylvania teach young bears to dance by placing them on heated iron plates while the trainer plays on the fiddle. The bear lifting up its legs alternately to escape the heat, involuntarily oblige the time marked by the violin. It eventually learns to lift his legs whenever he hears the music.

## TELEGRAPHIC.

AN EPITOME OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS NEW ATtracting PUBLIC INTEREST.

The Governor of Tennessee has pardoned Dan Hennessy, of "gold-briek" fame, who was sentenced to a five years' term in the penitentiary for swindling O. F. Noel out of \$6,000.

Another battle has occurred between the Jones and Green factions in Hancock county, Tenn., and the result is that there are two less of the Green family.

The boiler of the steamer Fulton exploded Thursday, in the Gulf, off the mouth of the Mississippi. The captain, the pilot and two deck hands were killed.

Two earthquake shocks were felt at Yuma, Ariz. One was quite severe, lasting several seconds, and accompanied with low rumbling sounds. No damage was done.

Michael Murry, short stop of a baseball club, was hit by a pitched ball and killed at Rochester, N. Y. His neck was broken from the force of the ball.

Capt. Nat Kinney, the famous chief and founder of the "Bald Knobbers" organization, was shot and instantly killed at Ozark, Mo., by Bill Miles, an anti-Bald-Knobber, Miles escaped.

Mrs. Garrie Harrington, wife of a Chicago druggist, committed suicide by pouring oil over her clothing and then setting fire to it. She had been in ill health for some time, and frequently had attacks of dementia.

Sherman Reeves arrested his nephew Sherman Grim, for disorderly conduct, at Oakland, Ind. A fight ensued, and both drew revolvers. Grim was shot three times and will die. Reeves was slightly wounded.

Billy Cole, who shot Wm. Montgomery and Charles Grant, was taken from jail by masked men at Guide Rock, Neb., and hanged on the railroad bridge. Both of Cole's victims are still alive.

In a quarrel at Tucson, Ariz., one Mexican was stabbed to death and another mortally wounded by a Mexican named Jesus Figueroa. The murdered man was trying to make peace when stabbed.

Howard O. Spencer was held in \$6,000 and George Stringham in \$5,000 bonds, for the murder of Sergt. Pike in August, 1859, at Salt Lake City, Utah. Stringham made a confession. He furnished Spencer his weapon to do the shooting, and helped Spencer escape.

George Reid, of Orange, N. J., a newly elected fireman, did not respond when an alarm rang. "Get up, George; it won't do to miss your first fire," said his father, trying to wake him. But the young fellow did not stir, and upon touching his face, the father found him cold and dead.

Julie Clermont, has been arrested on a charge of having stolen \$25,000 by selling goods to different parties at Guaymas, Mex., and appropriating the funds to himself. He confessed to stealing \$8,000, but it has been ascertained that he has deposited in several of the largest houses \$19,000.

A serious accident occurred on a railway near Springfield, Ohio. A train, consisting of eight freight, two passenger cars and two sleepers, struck a broken rail. The engine and every car were derailed. The sleepers, both carrying passengers, were thrown down the embankment. Four passengers were injured.

Worth Jackson, a lunatic, who had been placed in a bare and close apartment, ended his career at Chelyenne, Wyo., by gashing his throat with bits of glass obtained by breaking a lamp of glass. Jackson, armed with a Winchester rifle, six-shooter and bow-knife, was captured by a ranchman near here, after firing several shots at passersby.

Postoffice authorities at Chicago, having in charge the box robbery affair have completed a partial list of notes, drafts, money orders, and other negotiable papers found in Oberkamps' rooms. So far it foots up over \$250,000. The inspector is satisfied that the aggregate value of the stolen documents recovered will be fully a million dollars.

The sheriff of Crook county, Wyo., arrived at Joliet, Ill., with Jim O'Connor, a horse thief, sentenced to three years' imprisonment. While coming through Iowa on the fast train with his hands and legs ironed O'Connor jumped through a car window and tried to make his escape. The train was stopped and he was quickly captured.

Escaping gas had filled the picture gallery in the west wing of the residence of F. C. Denney, at Elmira, N. Y., and when Mrs. Denney, before entering the gallery, stepped into a niche and touched an electric appliance for lighting the gas, a terrific explosion followed, blowing the roof off the gallery and strewing the grounds about the house with glass, iron and timbers. Furniture was blown through the hallway like leaves. Plate glass windows and walls were broken in nearly every part of the house.

## COAST CULLINGS.

DEVOTED PRINCIPALLY TO WASHINGTON TERRITORY AND CALIFORNIA.

An Italian mine, Giovanni Govesglia, while rolling logs at the Zeile mine at Jackson, Cal., was sunstruck, and died three hours afterward.

John Boone, a sailor, who came to Tacoma, W. T., from San Pedro, Cal., became intoxicated and was run over and killed in Northern Pacific yards.

A Chinaman, an employe on the Southern Pacific at Merced, Cal., while attempting to jump on a freight train, slipped and fell, the cars passing over both his legs near thigh.

A young man named Ernest Stayna was accidentally shot at Pasadena, Cal., by a rifle in his own hands while taking it out of a wagon. He died almost instantly.

M. Trayner was arrested at Los Angeles, Cal., on suspicion of shooting W. Eiman. The victim will probably die. The cause of the shooting is still unknown.

Frank Beaumont assaulted Frank Cox, at Peantano, Cal., who shot him, the bullet entering Beaumont's throat and coming out at the back of the neck, severing the spine.

Sam Probst, the 9 year-old son of B. Probst, of Colusa, Cal., fell off the river bank adjoining the town and was drowned. The body has been recovered.

Fried Bade, 37 years old, was drowned at Stockton, Cal., while bathing in Stockton channel. From his actions, as seen by people on a yacht, it is supposed he was seized with cramps.

At Fairbank station, near Nogales, Ariz., Sam and George McLaren, saloon-keepers, got into a quarrel with a Mexican over the price of a drink. The two saloon-keepers fired seven shots into the Mexican, killing him. Both men were arrested.

Henry Clay Brown, a ranchman, while sitting asleep on the track near San Fernando station, Cal., was struck by the overland express. On account of a curve he was not seen till the train was upon him. He was taken to Los Angeles hospital, where the injuries were pronounced fatal.

The loss by the fire at Stockton, Cal., was about \$100,000; insurance about \$60,000. The Shippee Agricultural Works, which used the burned building for a warehouse, had about fifty combined harvesters stored there, and a number of grain cleaners, all of which were burned.

An old gentleman named P. J. Palmer, who died at National City, Cal., has in accordance with implicit instructions left by him, had his body put in a heavy-weighted coffin, carried out to sea, and after appropriate funeral ceremonies, consigned to the bottom of the Pacific.

In some localities in Mexico the people are suffering a plague in the way of an invasion of rats, which go into towns and villages in large numbers, destroying nearly everything in the way. In some instances destructive conflagrations have been started by rats getting into places where matches are kept, and setting fire to houses.

An autopsy was held in the case of John Moata, the lodging-house keeper who was beaten by Carl Foustson, a sailor, and died, at San Francisco. The autopsy showed that death was caused by erysipelas, but the disease was not due to the blows given by Foustson. A warrant will not be issued for the arrest of the latter, who is now on his way to Tacoma.

Two youthful horse-thieves were captured at Seattle, W. T. Three of them had stolen three valuable horses and taken to the woods, where the boys and horses were found by Wm. Bunch, owner of the horses. One of the boys ran, but the others were turned over to the police and were later severely lectured by the judge and allowed to go, as neither was over 10 years of age. The boys' names are Jo Jandos, Charlie Dietzel and Eddie George.

Arthur W. Dickens, who is believed to be a nephew of Charles Dickens, the English novelist, was found dead in his room at Los Angeles, Cal., with a bullet hole in his right temple. He came here from Denver, Col., about a year ago. He left a letter saying he was perfectly sane when about to take his life, and that having lived over fifty years as a Bohemian, being weary of life, and finding his financial relations strained, he takes this way of solving the problem.

Arthur Pequeira, aged about 19 years, committed suicide at Nogales, Ariz., by shooting himself through the head with a revolver. He expired instantly. He was a son of Ex-Gov. Pequeira of Sonora, Mexico, and he would have received on the attainment of his 21st birthday. He left no explanation for committing the deed, but it is understood that Pequeira held a quarrel with a woman to whom he became attached, but who threatened to discard him unless he gave her more money.

## AGRICULTURAL.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF FARMERS AND STOCKMEN.

Ewes that have weaned their lambs may be fattened very easily if given two meals a day of grain with plenty of grass in the pasture.

Radishes may be had at all periods. Use plenty of manure and grow them quickly, so as to have them crisp and tender.

All the leguminous plants that have been tried make good ensilage, but they are so highly nitrogenous as to make too rich a food to use alone in any quantity.

Keep squashes and pumpkins away from cantaloupes and water-melons. In fact, it is best to grow no pumpkins on a farm where melons are raised, as the bees carry pollen from one plant to another.

The hoe may now be used with advantage both on beets and carrots. The spaces between the rows can be cleaned with a cultivator, but the hoe should be used to clean out grass and weeds between the plants.

Young corn makes an excellent green manurial crop for plowing under, but the seed is expensive. Sorghum may be used also, and the seed for a few acres will cost but little. Sow it thickly and plow it under when the plants are about two feet high.

It is not desirable to pasture cows in woodlands. The grass grown under the shade is less nutritious, and the animals are apt to find many wild plants, the flavor of which spoils the milk for any use. This is especially true of woods where wild garlic abounds.

Many cases of milk fever may be traced to the manner in which the cows are fed before calving. If the cow is waiting to come in, and has been dried off, she will require but very little grain. The best food is grass, with a light mess of moistened bran at night. If too fat the chances are that she will have milk fever.

In a majority of cases the loss of young chicks and turkeys may be traced to lice. At this season, when the weather is becoming very warm, lice multiply rapidly, and a few days only are necessary to have the entire flock infested. Constant vigilance should be exercised in order to prevent lice from destroying the young poultry.

This is the time when a close search must be made for borers in trees. They can be more easily destroyed now than later on. Remove the earth from the trees to the depth of six inches around the trunk, search for the borer and fill up with coal ashes, as the borer does not work on trees where wood ashes have been freely used.

All grass crops make the best hay if cut before the seed-heads form. When a plant produces seed it has performed its mission and stored much of its nutritious matter in the seed. To secure the largest amount of nu. it in hay the grass should be cut while the stalks and blades contain the elements that would be directed to the formation of seed.

Old strawberry fields soon become overrun with weeds. This can only be prevented by pulling the weeds out between the plants as soon as the crop of berries is picked, at the same time working between the rows well with a cultivator. If all the weeds are pulled out as fast as they appear, so as to prevent them from seeding, there will be but few of them next season.

Look carefully after the grafts set the past spring, and give them timely attention. Remove any shoots that start on the stock, so that they may not rot the graft. A horticultural authority tells us that a graft should be treated as if it were a young tree instead of in the ground. When there are several buds upon the graft one will often get the start of the others and outgrow them. Check this by pinching the ends of the shoots of the exuberant grower.

A farmer who uses fertilizers is presumed to know what he is about. If he applies them to an entire field it is because previous experience has satisfied him that they pay. This being so, it is important that the fertilizer be evenly distributed so that the greatest proportionate good may result. Much depends on the condition of the fertilizer as to dryness and fineness, and something also on the kind of soil used and its condition. Even if force feed will not distribute evenly the fertilizer has been left in it to rust and ruin it. At the best there will be some imperfection in distribution.

In a long but the larger amount of fertilizer put on at each end has a tendency to pack, and will not run through so easily as if less were put in at a time and more frequently. On account should intentional breaks in distribution be made for experiment. There will probably be too many places where the fertilizer was missed accidentally. The uneven distribution of fertilizer causes uneven growth of grain and uneven ripening, still further detracting from its quality.

## MARKET REPORT.

RELIABLE QUOTATIONS CAREFULLY RE-VISED EVERY WEEK.

WHEAT—Valley, \$1.30@1.31; Walla Walla, \$1.20@1.22.

BARLEY—Whole, \$1.10@1.12; ground, per ton, \$25.00@27.50.

OATS—Milling, 30@31½c.; feed, 44@45c.

HAY—Baled, \$10@12.

SEED—Blue Grass, 14½@16c.; Timothy, 9½@10c.; Red Clover, 14@15c.

FLOUR—Patent Roller, \$4.00; Country Brand, \$3.75.

EGGS—Per doz, 18c.

BUTTER—Fancy roll, per pound, 25c.; pickled, 20@25c.; inferior grade, 15@25c.

CHEESE—Eastern, 16@20c.; Oregon, 14@16c.; California, 14½c.

VEGETABLES—Beets, per sack, \$1.50; cabbage, per lb., 2½c.; carrots, per sk., \$1.25; lettuce, per doz., 20c.; onions, 10¢; potatoes, per 100 lbs., 90c.@\$1; radishes, per doz., 15@20c.; rhubarb, per lb., 6c.

HONEY—In comb, per lb., 18c.; strained, 5 gal. tins, per lb. 8½c.

POULTRY—Chickens, per doz., \$4.00@4.50; ducks, per doz., \$5.00@7.00; geese, \$6.00@8.00; turkeys, per lb., 12½c.

PROVISIONS—Oregon hams, 12½c per lb.; Eastern, 13@13½c.; Eastern breakfast bacon, 12½c. per lb.; Oregon 10@12c.; Eastern lard, 10@11½c. per lb.; Oregon, 10½c.

GREEN FRUITS—Apples, \$6.00@8.50; Sicily lemons, \$6.00@6.50; California, \$3.50@5.00; Naval oranges \$6.00; Riverside, \$4.00; Mediterranean, \$4.25.

DRIED FRUITS—Sun dried apples, 7½c. per lb.; machine dried, 10@11c.; pitless plums, 13c.; Italian prunes, 10@14c.; peaches, 12½@14c.; raisins, \$2.40@2.50.

WOOL—Valley, 17@18c.; Eastern Oregon, 9@15c.

HIDES—Dry beef hides, 8@10c.; culls, 6@7c.; kip and calf, 8@10c.; Murrain, 10@12c.; tallow, 3@3½c.

LUMBER—Rough, per M, \$10.00; edged, per M, \$12.00; T. and G. sheathing, per M, \$13.00; No. 2 flooring, per M, \$18.00; No. 2 ceiling, per M, \$18.00; No. 2 rustic, per M, \$18.00; clear rough, per M, \$20.00; clear P. 4 S. per M, \$22.50; No. 1 flooring, per M, \$22.50; No. 1 ceiling, per M, \$22.50; No. 1 rustic, per M, \$22.50; stepping, per M, \$25.00; over 12 inches wide, extra, \$1.00; lengths 40 to 50, extra, \$2.00; lengths 50 to 60, extra, \$4.00; 1½ lath, per M, \$2.25; 1½ lath, per M, \$2.50.

SALT—Liverpool grades of fine salt \$18, \$19 and \$20 for the three sizes; stock salt, \$10.

BEANS—Quote small whites, \$4.50; pinks, \$3; bayos, \$3; butter, \$4.50; Limas, \$4.50 per cental.

COFFEE—Quote Salvador, 17c.; Costa Rica, 18@20c.; Rio, 18@20c.; Java, 27c.; Arbuckle's roasted, 22c.

MEAT—Beef, wholesale, 2½@3c.; dressed, 6c.; sheep, 3c.; dressed, 6c.; hogs, dressed, 8@9c.; veal, 5@7c.

PICKLES—Kegs quoted steady at \$1.35.

SUGAR—Prices for barrels; Golden C, 6½c.; extra C, 6½c.; dry granulated, 7½c.; crushed, fine crushed, cube and powdered, 7½c.; extra C, 6½c.; halves and boxes, ½c. higher.

—A man may be intelligent, eminent indeed in literature and philosophy, and yet exhibit very little common sense in the use of money. Daniel Webster and Horace Greeley would use money foolishly and recklessly, even when they greatly needed it for their own legitimate purposes. The late Matthew Arnold left an estate worth but \$5,000. The bulk of his accumulations, it seems, was used to pay other people's debts.—United Presbyterian.

## RELIGIOUS AND EDUCATIONAL.

—A society has been organized under the name of "The Association for Educational Reform of the City of New York," the object of which is to promote needed reforms in the public school system.

—In London, lately, a school examiner asked the class before him the meaning of "eternity." Straightway the smallest of the pupils held up a little white hand and exclaimed: "Please, sir, God's life."

—By the way, when you take your vacation, don't forget to take your Christianity along with you. If you leave it at home you may not recognize it, or it may not recognize you, when you return.—Interior.

—The essential difference between a good and bad education is this, that the former draws on the child to make it learn by making it sweet to him; the latter drives the child to learn by making it sour to him if he does not.—Charles Burston.

—It is in vain to preach to people unless you also love them—Christians love them. It is not the smallest use to try to make people good, unless you try at the same time, and they feel that you are trying, to make them happy. And you rarely can make another happy unless you are happy yourself.—Mrs. Craik.

—A Christian said to a minister of his acquaintance: "I am told you are against the perseverance of the saints." "Not I, indeed," he replied, "it is the perseverance of sinners that I oppose." "But do you not think that a child of God can fall very low, and yet be restored?" "I think it would be very dangerous to make the experiment."

—Beware of making your moral staple consist of the negative virtues. It is good to abstain, and teach others to abstain, from all that is sinful or hurtful. By making a business of it leads to emancipation of character, unless one feeds largely also on the more nutritious diet of active, sympathetic benevolence.—Olive Weyell Holmes.

—Six things are requisite to make a home. Integrity must be the architect, and tidiness the upholsterer. It must be warmed by affection, and lighted with cheerfulness, and industry must be the ventilator, renewing the atmosphere, and bringing in fresh salubrity day by day; while over all, as protecting glory and canopy, nothing will suffice except the blessing of God.—Hamilton.

—Very few persons recognize the large possibilities of good which conversation is freighted. It can infuse intelligence, spread knowledge, inspire new ideas, animate the drooping spirit, move the feelings, kindle the affections, stimulate the activities. These possibilities may be gradually made realities by every one who will constantly and patiently put in practice the two essential parts of good conversation—to seek for the best in others and to give the best that is in oneself. No large fund of information, no years of culture, no powers of eloquence are necessary in order to do this.—Church Union.

## WIT AND WISDOM.

—Small faults indulged in are little thieves that let in greater.

—If there was only a law against killing time there wouldn't be a loafer left in the country.—Smithville News.

—I've never any pity for conceited people, because I think they carry their comfort about with them.—George Eliot.

—A man in the hands of his friends may be safe from his enemies; but there are none to save him from his friends.—N. O. Peary.

—Upon the shoulders of each man in the community, there rests a great responsibility. He has not only his own reputation to take care of, but he has the reputation of his race.—J. G. Holland.

—A blind boy was once asked the meaning of forgiveness. After thinking a few moments he replied: "It is the odor which the trampled flower gives out to bless the foot that crushes it."—Arkansas Traveler.

—Servility and civility are as opposite as the poles. One is despicable, while the other is in the highest degree desirable. That style of manners which combines self-respect with respect for the rights and feelings of others, is a quality to be cultivated with extreme diligence.

—Deacon (to divinity student)—"If you were called now, what would you do?" Student (somewhat absent-minded)—"Why, show down my hand, of course—I—I—that is—I—" Deacon—"That's right; always show down your hand. Don't pull a gun. The other fellow might get a drop on you." Philadelphia Call.

—Mrs. Matchmaker—"Edith, if you ever expect to catch Mr. Richey, you must say fewer sharp things. Skirmishing drives the men away. A little more tact and a little less tactics, my dear." Edith—"You good mamma! your tact is so much better than your tactics. Don't you know that every engagement is preceded by a skirmish?"—The Idea.