

POLK COUNTY OBSERVER.

VOL. I.

MONMOUTH, POLK COUNTY, OREGON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1888.

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PACIFIC COAST NEWS.

Typhoid malaria is prevalent at Riparia, and several have died of it.

A party of fifteen emigrants have arrived at Vancouver from Kansas.

Blackfrosts have nipped things on the Columbia river near Vancouver.

The Ellensburg foundry will be ready for business before the first of January.

Capitalists are negotiating for the purchase of the Bay Horse mine at Huntington.

In the way of firewood, Walla Walla is getting into a close corner, there being but little in the yards.

Mr. A. Chambers and others of Lynden are agitating a creamery and cheese factory at that place.

Frank Ledman, of Vancouver, who had an accident policy, had his arm put out by the kick of a horse.

Wm. Hamilton, of Hamilton's island, one of the oldest settlers at the Cascades, died Monday evening.

Ellensburg is looking for a capitalist who will build it a first-class hotel for a reasonable consideration.

The Milton Eagle says a hog weighing 541 pounds was brought to that place and sold lately.

The laying of the pipes and mains at Baker City for the water works were to commence in a day or so.

The Rosie Olsen brought 1,200 cases of salmon to Astoria from Tillamook and had her smokestack knocked overboard.

John Stanton, of Kamela, Umatilla county, was crazed with grief because he learned the death of a sister in Canada.

Masons and carpenters at Ellensburg are busy early and late, and pleasant weather makes it possible to keep on building.

A petition is being circulated and numerously signed asking for the appointment of J. D. Lamau as postmaster at Walla Walla.

Shoo Fly and Andy Lee, two fell gown Chinamen, both born in Walla Walla, voted at the last election. Each voted a mixed ticket.

Orley Hull, of Walla Walla, has a pullet hatched last March that is now raising its second brood of chickens. That beats any fish story of late.

Lane county's hop crop for 1888 is estimated at about 5,000 bales. The entire yield of the State is estimated at between 12,000 and 20,000 bales.

Edgar Nicholson was riding a scrub race near Dayton when a rein broke and his horse pulled around and threw him and left him with a broken leg.

Thomas Dook, of Wenatchee, when driving to Ellensburg and coming down a hill, was thrown in front of the wheels. One of them passed over him, breaking the bone of his hip.

The Baker City Democrat urges citizens there to purchase the grounds for the Baker County Agricultural society as a joint stock company and put it under capable management.

There will be a grand wolf hunt Saturday three miles south of Salem, near McKinney's. The parties choose sides. The one that gets the scalp gets a reward of \$10 and a delicious supper at the others expense.

Mr. Corvallis's company make no secret of their intentions to build the Bellingham Bay & British Columbia road to their Nooksack coal mines in the early spring. They are ballasting the railroad with ashes as far as completed.

The \$15 per bushel wheat swindlers have made their appearance in Linn county to collect payment on notes held by them. They hold notes to the amount of \$3,000 in Linn county. Some of the parties intend to contest the case.

William Perry Bruce, one of the pioneers of Walla Walla county, died at Waitsburg on Saturday last, aged 63 years. Mr. Bruce crossed the plains in 1854, locating in the Willamette valley. In the spring of 1861 he bought a claim where Waitsburg now stands, and has lived there continuously since.

The farmers of Baker county should prepare themselves to supply the creamery with their surplus cream, thus reaping a good reward for their pains and enhancing the value of their cows. The Democrat says that cows that are now selling for \$15 will be worth \$35 as soon as the creamery gets in running order.

Concerning the wheat market the Albany Democrat says: The first of the season Corvallis was in the lead in the wheat market, but Albany soon caught up. Then Salem was far behind. The O. P. boats started, and now that city leads us one cent, which we cannot understand, as considerable of the wheat comes this way. Wheat is 76 cents a bushel at Albany one and cent more at Salem.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

Mrs. Frances Hodgen Burnett expects to spend the winter at Washington.

Charles A. Dana of the New York Sun sailed for Europe on the steamship La Normandie.

Over \$4,000,000 has been put into building improvements at Denver, Col., during the past year.

New York will have to struggle along with only 399 real society folks this season. Ward McAllister is going to pass the winter in California.

A workingwoman's society in Detroit, formed ten years ago to take care of girls unemployed and get them work, has so thrived that it recently dedicated a fine building for its purposes.

Colored women in New York city have organized "the women's charity and industrial club" for the help of their sisters, and have leased a four-story house as a "home for friendless colored girls."

A prison official thinks it would be a great scheme to tattoo convicts. His idea is for each penal institution to adopt a different mark or monogram, and then the problem of identifying convicts will be solved.

King George of Greece has formally notified Prime Minister Tricoupis of the betrothal of Princess Alexandra to Grand Duke Paul of Russia. A Te Deum was sung in the royal chapel in honor of the event.

Mine. Ima de Murska, the once favorite Hungarian songstress, sailed for Europe this week. She is said to be dying and in straitened circumstances, and her musical friends made up a purse to enable her to reach her home.

Princeton college catalogue, just issued, shows that there are in the undergraduate academic department 463 students, in the school of science 111, post-graduates 90. Altogether there is a total of 667 students, as against 611 last year.

A clergyman in Newark, N. J., whose wife complained that the members of the congregation were very distant toward her, took occasion to remark from the pulpit a few Sundays ago that his wife would like to be introduced to several women of the congregation.

Over \$100,000 has already been spent in the New Cumberland oil field in West Virginia, and the reports are so encouraging that the excitement among the producers is at a fever heat. The leases have all been taken up and territory cannot be had at a big premium.

By means of recent improvements made in the manufacture of rifles, as many as one hundred and twenty can now be rolled in an hour by one machine. They are straightened cold and bored with corresponding speed, and even the rifling is done automatically, so that one man tending six machines can turn out sixty or seventy barrels per day. With the old rifling machine twenty barrels were about the limit of a day's work.

Recently a gentleman who was traveling in Switzerland found a veritable curiosity in a museum in the little town of Soleure. It was a bird's nest made of imperfect watch springs which had been thrown out of the little watch factories which abound in that district. Some bird considered them excellent material with which to construct her nest, and with infinite care worked them together into as perfect a structure of the kind as one could desire to see.

Albert Royal and brother, both of Orlando, Fla., went on the Wekiva River, below Clay springs, the other day on a deer and bear hunt. They arrived at their camping place before sundown and concluded to take a short hunt before dark. They had not gone far before they came across a bear sign which they followed up, soon coming in sight of one of unusual size, which they succeeded in bringing down the first shot. One remained to care for the dead bear, the other kept on and soon found another, which he also killed, the whole time occupied not exceeding thirty minutes. The first bear weighed four hundred pounds and the other two hundred and fifty pounds.

A Fearful Leap.
George Daily, serving a term of three years at San Quentin State prison, in California, for assault to murder, attempted suicide by springing from the top of the building to the ground below, a distance of seventy-five feet. His injuries are believed to be fatal. The cause was dependency.

AGRICULTURAL.

The cotton plant has been proposed as a substitute for jute.

Over one million bushels of potatoes were imported last year into this country.

The vine growers of the Argentine Republic have engaged in the production of raisins.

Crops in Guatemala have been cut short by a severe drought. In many departments of Salvador all crops have been lost for want of rain. In Nicaragua also a famine is threatened on account of drought.

The annual value of the dairy product of the State of Illinois equals the value of the gold production of the United States. Who says the cow is not the best friend of the farmer?

A Michigan man says that his Manchester strawberry (pillstare variety) were so much influenced in form by the Sharpless growing near that he sold them for Sharpless.

There are many instances where thirty-five bushels of grain might just as well be grown on one acre as twenty, if the right variety had been sown.

It is reported that the round-headed apple-borer has been successfully excluded from trees by placing fresh manure around the base of the trees and in contact with it.

The cost of a colt at three years old is said by a correspondent of Rural New Yorker, who has computed it, to be \$84. He also states that such colts should sell for \$150.

Toads are the policemen of the garden. They speedily transport insect depredators to a place where they will do no more harm. And this interior jail is quite capacious.

Mr. Halmeyer, of New Jersey, has twenty-four silos of 2,000 tons capacity. He recently opened one that was filled seven years ago and found its contents in excellent condition.

The introduction of labor-saving machinery has disarranged the old methods of farming, and in nothing more than in the changes it has necessitated in the employment of hired help.

Mrs. W. M. Dills, of Springfield, Mo., has charge of a stock farm and is said to be the best judge of horse-flesh in that vicinity. She comes naturally by her knowledge, as she is a Kentucky woman.

Good, clean seed wheat of a variety well adapted to the soil, should be selected for seeding. There should be no delay now in having the wheat in, as the better the growth the less liability of the young plants being thrown out by the frost next spring.

Guide boards have been growing numerous in the country towns of New England for a few years past. In some sections of Massachusetts at every corner are set solid granite posts ten feet high, to which are bolted iron sign boards with raised letters.

Preserving eggs for winter use is not difficult, but care is required. Eggs from hens not in company with males will keep three times as long as those containing the germs of chicks. Keep the eggs on racks in a cool place, and turn them half over twice a week.

Oil is cheaper than machinery, so use it freely on all the working parts of the mowers and reapers. Lumber is also cheaper, and when not in use every piece should be carefully housed, as well as all the tools used about the farm. Tools, cars and machines rust out much faster than they will wear out.

In the dairy contest at the Minnesota State Fair, a few days ago, a Holstein-Friesian cow took the first prize and another took the second. The butter test is reported to have been the severest known to science. These two Holstein-Friesian cows were just off from grass, and had received no grain or other special preparation.

Damp floors cause cold, due to evaporation. The feet of animals are injured, and disease of the limbs occurs when they are compelled to stand or sleep on damp locations. The bed of the animal is very important. It is economical to use clean, dry material daily, and not delay changing the bedding until the whole is saturated with urine.

If the ground is damp a one-horse plow should be run through the spaces between the strawberry rows in order to allow the surplus water to flow off in winter. Strawberries are partial to somewhat damp locations, but in the winter and early spring, when heavy rains cause the water to stand on the plants, it is injurious. The frost will also heave up the plants if the ground is too wet.

The sweet and sour apple question is sure to be discussed at this season.

A recent writer remarks that sweet apples are generally considered much more valuable for feeding than sour, but there is less difference than many suppose. If well ripened, even sour apples contain a good deal of sweet, which is to the taste overcome by a slight disproportion of acid. Those who have fed sour ripe apples find them nearly or quite as nutritive as sweet ones. They should not, however, be given to hogs which are fed corn in the ear, as it will make the pigs' teeth sore.

Wolves are doing great damage in Northern Montana by destroying stock. In Choteau County Charles Adams was compelled to fly from the beasts the other night, when they destroyed eighty of his thorough-bred bucks. One hundred and fifty sheep were killed in one flock, and also thirty colts belonging to another ranchman. The wolves also attack travelers.

If cows are fed a liberal ration of palatable, nutritious ground feed night and morning they require no driving. No dog or boy is necessary to chase the fields over to persuade them, but about milking time they are ready to walk from pasture to barn quietly, and the milks will be fuller as there has been no excitement. Keep cows quiet and they give better returns. Thus a saving of labor and patience pays in part for grain feed.

Will it pay to cut rough forage for stock? To cut it involves the utilization of parts which the animal would otherwise reject, but when cut will be swallowed without hesitation, and any part of the forage. It has been found that to cut evergreen sugar corn makes a gain of 10 per cent. in feeding value, but to cut the ordinary dried corn-stalk adds 30 to 40 per cent. The standard of value is the result in butter.

Considerable success on the part of farmers depends upon keeping a close eye to the market. The first of any new crop will almost always command a high price, and soon after, when there is a rush for the market, prices rapidly decline. Unless one can be among the first it is better to hold until the prices have passed the best stage and come back to a more normal condition. It is the forcing of the market that brings low prices, and for that reason a close watch should be kept of the reputed supply and demand.

As the cold increases with approach to winter, farmers should bear in mind that an increased amount of food or material is required to maintain bodily heat; and if animals are only able to procure maintenance rations, the increased heat required to maintain a normal heat of the body must be generated from a consumption of elements of heat that have been accumulated in the shape of fat and tissue. How much better to furnish the required heat by means of protection from the cold by a shelter that they save any waste of accumulated fat which may be continually held against severe emergencies.

The mending of the fences and repairing of the ditches and drains are usually laid aside, along with cutting the supply of wood, for winter employment, but though this has been the custom in the past, yet it is doubtful if such work can be economically done in winter. Digging post-holes when the ground is frozen, or being caught with a load in a snow storm, are more laborious than doing the work in the fall, when the materials for building can be more easily procured and the work done in a shorter time. All the outdoor work should be done before the winter comes on. The winter will give ample employment with inside work. Manure making and stock feeding are jobs for winter, and much of the grain can be thrashed and cleaned later on. If any of the work to be done is to be postponed let it be such as can be done under shelter.

All land intended for spring seeding should be plowed in the fall, not only for the purpose of avoiding the hurry of work in the spring but also to assist in getting the land in better condition. There is no surer remedy for destroying outcrops in the soil than fall plowing, which opens the soil to frost, thereby not only destroying the worms and other insects but also assisting to pulverize the soil by alternate freezing and thawing, the expansion and contraction causing all lumps and clods to fall to pieces. Where the soil is well drained no plowing will be necessary in the spring, if the ground be well broken late in the fall. If the outside work can be done before winter the spring will open with the heaviest portion of the work done, leaving only such as cannot be done at any other season except in spring.

Portland Market Report.

WHEAT—Valley, \$1.40@1.42; Walla Walla \$1.32@1.35.

BARLEY—Whole, \$0.85@1.00; ground, per ton, \$20.00@21.50.

OATS—Milling, 32@34c; feed, 28@30c.

HAY—Baled, \$10@13.

SEED—Blue Grass, 12@15c; Timothy, 7@8c; Red Clover, 11@12c.

FLOUR—Patent Roller, \$5.00; Country Brand, \$4.50.

EGGS—Feg doz, 30c.

BUTTER—Fancy roll, per pound, 25c; pickled, 22@25c; inferior grade, 20@22c.

CHEESE—Eastern, 13@14c; Oregon, 13@14c; California, 14c.

VEGETABLES—Beets, per sack, \$1.00; cabbage, per lb., 1c; carrots, per sk., \$.75; lettuce, per doz, 10c; onions, \$.85; potatoes, per 100 lbs., 40c; radishes, per doz., 15@20c; rhubarb, per lb., 6c.

HONEY—In comb, per lb., 48c; strained, 5 gal. tins, per lb., 84c.

POULTRY—Chickens, per doz., \$3.00@4.00; ducks, per doz., \$5.00@6.00; geese, \$6.00@7.00; turkeys, per lb., 12c.

PROVISIONS—Oregon hams, 12c per lb.; Eastern, 15@16c; Eastern breakfast bacon, 12c per lb.; Oregon lard, 10@11c; Eastern lard, 10@11c per lb.; Oregon, 10c.

GREEN FRUITS—Apples, \$.60 @ .75c; Sicily lemons, \$6.00@6.50 California, \$6.00@6.50; Naval oranges \$6.00; Riverside, \$5.00; Mediterranean, \$4.25.

DRIED FRUITS—Sun dried apples, 4c per lb.; machine dried, 10@11c; pitless plums, 7c; Italian prunes, 10@12c; peaches, 10@11c; raisins, \$2.40@2.50.

HIDES—Dry beef hides, 12@13c; cattle, 6@7c; kip and calf, 10@12c; Mutton, 10@12c; tallow, 4@4c.

WOOL—Valley, 15@18c; Eastern Oregon, 10@15c.

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; 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; sheathing, 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; 1 1/2 lath, per M, \$2.25; 1 1/4 lath, per M, \$2.50.

COFFEE—Quote Salvador, 17c; Costa Rica, 18@20c; Rio, 18@20c.

MEAT—Beef, wholesale, 2 1/2@3c; dressed, 6c; sheep, 3c; dressed, 6c; hogs, dressed, 6 1/2@7c; veal, 5@7c.

BEANS—Quote small whites, \$4.50; pinks, \$3.50; bayos, \$3; butter, \$4.50; Limas, \$4.50 per cental.

PICKLES—Kegs quoted steady at \$1.35.

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

SUGAR—Prices for barrels; Golden C, 6 1/2c; extra C, 6 1/2c; dry granulated 7 1/2c; crushed, fine crushed, cube and powdered, 7 1/2c; extra C, 6 1/2c; halves and boxes, 4c higher.

The latest form of hazing unearthed by the Annapolis court martial is standing calets on their heads and making them chew paper and candle grease.

Over 125,000 cows are slaughtered annually in India to feed the British soldiers, and the supply of milk is consequently so scarce that thousands of native children die yearly.

Jesse D. Carr, the rich ranchman of Fresno county, Cal., has been ordered by a government agent to remove a stone fence which he has built around 40,000 acres of government land.

Sham battle flags, tattered and torn to pieces, are the latest product of French ingenuity, and are said to have deceived large numbers of curiosity hunters and patriots.

A church organ has recently been constructed at Milan whose pipes are constructed of paper pulp instead of metal. It has 1,400 pipes and is an instrument of great power and sweetness of tone.

An English court has just decided that railway servants cannot eject persons from trains who say they have lost their tickets, the only remedy being to sue the passenger for breach of contract.

The new suspension bridge over North river at New York, it is estimated, will cost \$37,000,000. It will give entrance to ten railroads and will be one of the great triumphs of modern engineering.

In London dressmakers and others are fined heavily for allowing their girls to work over hours in the shops. Jay, the great mourning storeman, was recently up in the police court on a charge of this kind.

American travelers in Ireland nowadays are furnished a traveling companion free of expense, it seems. Nevertheless, a government detective in one's tracks can hardly be said to add to the pleasure of a jaunt through Erin.

The paper money of Chili is so depreciated in value that a guest at a hotel ordinarily pays \$600 a day for his accommodations. At one time only a few years ago calico sold at \$2,000 a yard in these depreciated bills. This is a strange story.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN AFRICA.

The Ladies of the Akona Tribe Bring Their Husbands to Terms.

Mr. Pauli, who lived for some time in the Cameroon region, West Africa, tells of a highly successful woman's rights movement a while ago in the Akona tribe. Illustrating the fact that when women manfully assert them in savage lands, as well as elsewhere, they are a great power in the community. In that benighted region women are not supposed to have any rights. When a girl is 13 or 14 years old she is sold to anybody who has property enough to pay the price her father asks for her, and thereafter she works like a slave for her board and lodging and is subject to all the caprices of her lord and master. Even the bondsmen in the community have more privileges than the free women, and some of them in time are able to support rather extensive harems of their own.

It happened that there were some strong minded women among the Akona people, and they lifted up their voices in public places in favor of some radical social reforms that would make the lot of women kind rather more endurable. They were jeered at, as women reformers have been in some other lands, and were advised by the superior sex to keep on digging in the fields and pounding manioc root and thank fortune that their lot was not less tolerable. Reform was evidently not to be secured by any amount of feminine protest, and so these strong minded women put their long heads together and decided upon radical and far reaching measures.

The tribe is a small one. Nearly all the adult females in it enlisted under the banner of women's rights. One day there was an enormous commotion in that little community. It was almost wholly confined to the male population, the fact being that there was hardly a woman there to share the excitement. The mothers and wives, in a most unexpected and heartless manner, had suddenly dropped their implements of drudgery, and with their children in arms and marriageable daughters had fled them through the forests to the territory of another tribe, where, at a distance of eight or ten miles from their own garden patches, they were prepared to open negotiations with the lordly chieftain they had left behind them.

They knew beforehand that they would meet with a hospitable reception in the tribe with which they took refuge. It happened that this tribe was larger than the Akona, and did not like them very well, and it tickled them half to death to see the pickle in which the Akona men suddenly found themselves. The women set themselves to work earning their daily bread, and waited without a bit of impatience for an embassy from home. It was not long before the embassy put in an appearance.

The Akona tribe was of the opinion that they could not continue in business without the female members thereof, and they wanted the women to come home. The particularly strong minded spokesman of the refugees said she was glad to learn at last that the women of their tribe were regarded as a desirable element of the Akona people. As the women had taken care of all the men, it was evident they were able to take care of them, and they hadn't the slightest intention of going home except on certain important conditions, which she specified. Then the embassy went home to consult the chief men, who, as their harems were the largest, were the greatest sufferers by the flight of the fair sex.

The women stipulated that they would come back if a considerable part of the agricultural duties of the community were in future turned over to the slaves, if the mothers were permitted to have something to say about the disposal of their daughters, and if several other conditions were complied with. It did not take long for the gentlemen of Akona to decide what to do. A day or two later the women went back in high feather, having achieved a complete victory, and they have been treated very well ever since.—New York Sun.

A Little Barren Kingdom.

The little kingdom of Greece embraces a territory of about 25,000 square miles, and has a population of a little more than 2,000,000 Greeks and Albanians. Scotland has about the same territory and almost twice as many people. Switzerland has a third less territory and a third more people. Belgium and Holland taken together have about the same territory as Greece and five times as many people. As for wealth, Greece is proverbially the poorest country in Europe. Her rugged mountains and barren shores are hardly fit in many places for the scantiest vegetation; she has no rivers with fertile banks; her commerce is still undeveloped, and she is cut off from Europe by the treacherous Adriatic and by the inhospitable strip of Turkish territory that promises to keep her for an indefinite future from opening her railway connection with the north.

In Greece today it is the universal custom to speak of "going to Europe" just as Americans do with the stony Atlantic between New York and Liverpool. Add to all this the fact that this little barren kingdom of 2,000,000 souls has a public debt of \$80,000,000, and supports an army as large as that of the United States. The taxes are so high that the island of Crete, now under Turkish rule, would nearly double its ratio of taxation should it enter the kingdom of Greece. But in spite of all this discouraging Athens today is a busy hive of educational institutions, and in all the country villages there are thrifty schools, a compulsory law being carried out with more vigor year after year. Ten years ago the statistics for illiteracy in Greece were ahead of those of Italy today, and these ten years have revolutionized educational affairs in Greece.—"H. W. H." in New York Post.

Belgian Watch Dogs.

Among the exhibits in a Belgian dog show is a breed of dogs, the Schipperkes, found only in Belgium. They are made use of as watch dogs on board the numerous inland navigation boats. They are small black dogs, without tails and with pointed ears, of extraordinary intelligence and fidelity.—New York Sun.