

POLK COUNTY OBSERVER.

VOL. I.

MONMOUTH, POLK COUNTY, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 1889.

NO. 44.

PACIFIC COAST NOTES.

Matters of Local and General Interest Gathered from All Sources for the Benefit of Our Readers.

Firewood is scarce at Fresno.
Walla Walla has a postal delivery.
Riverside, Cal., has paid all its city taxes but \$75.
Colusa has four and a half miles of graded streets.
Newcastle's fruit shipment this year was 5,000 tons.
The county hospital at Visalia was burned recently.
The population of Washington territory is 240,140.
The penitentiary at Walla Walla is lighted by electricity.
An olive tree in Tulare has grown eight feet since last August.
Timber claims are being rapidly taken up in Mariposa county.
An apple orchard in Lassen cleared 26,000 the past year from 1500 trees.
Packers are offering at Riverside \$3 a box for navel oranges on the trees.
The windstorm last week brought down a good many trees in the Mendocino woods.
Yuba county is shipping apples to southern California and sending oranges to the north.
A flume 35 miles long will bring lumber to Selma, Fresno county, from the Giant forest.
The output of gold, silver and copper in Montana the past year is put down at \$60,487,000.
At Walla Walla a dense fog prevailed during the eclipse and at 2 o'clock lamps were lighted.
The police of San Diego is condemned by a committee of the city council as corrupt and inefficient.
S. W. Reed, of Fresno, picked 30 pounds of Flaming Tokay and Emperor grapes from his vine the 1st of January.
Delegates met at Ellensburg, W. T., on the 3d of January and began the work of securing statehood to the territory.
Large plantings of shad and speckled catfish will be made in the streams of Utah next June by the U. S. fish commissioner.
The first ear-load of Oroville oranges was received in Sacramento last week, and two car-loads were being packed at Oroville for shipment east.
N. J. McConnell, chief justice of Montana, has forwarded his resignation to the President, finding the duties of the office too burdensome.
The Teachers' convention which closed at Sacramento recently, recommended kindergarten instruction and the admittance of children four years of age.
The new Brotherhood of Railway Conductors, organized at Los Angeles some weeks ago, is said to have in special view revenge on the Burlington Railroad company.
San Bernardino's grand jury report condemns the county court-house as inadequate and the jail as a disgrace to decency. Slack business management of county officials is also condemned.
The approach of the Southern Pacific railroad toward San Luis Obispo, is giving quite an impetus to travel. The road was completed to Santa Margarita, ten miles distant, and trains running on the 5th of January.
At Bakersfield there is a field of alfalfa from which five cuttings were obtained the first year, and "the ground" was so thoroughly impregnated with alkali that the surface is white with the salt.
A flock of nine mountain sheep has recently been seen among the cliffs of Stein mountain, Elko county, Nev. A patriarch of the flock is reported to be as large as a Spanish mule and his horns resemble the gnarled roots of an old cedar.
The lumber cut of Washington Territory the past year was 700,000,000 feet, valued at \$9,000,000. Of this amount, Puget sound cut 450,000,000 feet and shipped by ocean 340,000,000 feet, valued at \$3,700,000. The foreign lumber shipments were \$1,200,000.
Richard Hall, of Dixon, a well-known citizen, early Tuesday morning of last week, while going home from Sacramento, heard the whistle for his station, rushed while half asleep from the car, and stepped off while the train was in motion. He was seriously injured.
Portland shows great progress. Her wholesale and retail trade in 1888 footed up between \$90,000,000 and \$1,000,000,000, compared with \$75,000,000 in 1887 and \$42,000,000 in 1883. The manufactures of the city and vicinity aggregate nearly \$14,000,000, and the value of buildings erected \$3,500,000.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

A Brief Mention of Matters of General Interest. Notes Gathered from Home and Abroad.
Gladstone reached his 79th birthday recently.
A rebellion has broken out in Upper India.
The King of Wurtemberg is in feeble health.
The opera-house of Tyler, Tex., was burned last week.
The Pope last week celebrated the close of his jubilee year.
Minister Phelps will return from England in a few weeks.
Germany does not propose to increase its artillery strength.
The Bulgarian sobranje has granted amnesty to political refugees.
The wife of Major General Schofield died suddenly recently of heart disease.
Collector Hager suggests that the duty on opium be reduced to 25 a pound.
The date for the Gwedore evictions in Ireland was set and carried into effect on January 2d.
Dr. Carter attempted to break 60,000 glass balls in six days at Minneapolis, last week, but failed to accomplish the feat.
Princess Adelbert, of Bavaria, was seized with hysterics in the Berlin Opera house last week. It is believed that she is insane.
The badly mutilated body of a German was found in Fairmount park, Philadelphia, Sunday. Much excitement was created.
It is stated that further papers relating to the Sackville affair are about to be given out for publication by the British government.
An escaped Soudanese has offered to bring in General Gordon's sword, clothes and papers, which are said to be hidden near Berbera.
At the close of a dancing exhibition at Brooklyn, N. Y., last week, a panic occurred and a score or more of persons were injured.
A large gathering at Liege, Belgium, recently, adopted resolutions favoring the restoration of the temporal power of the Pope.
The daughter of Lawrence Barrett, the actor, and Joseph Anderson, a brother of Mary Anderson, the actress, were married in Boston January 3d.
Johnston Hatfield, the worst of the whole Hatfield gang, in West Virginia, and a ferocious desperado, died last week in Lawrence county, Kentucky.
Slaven, of the American Dredging company, it is stated, assures DeLesseps that he can finish the second section of the Panama canal in twelve months.
F. W. Smith played Santa Claus at his home at Danville, Illinois, Christmas, and enveloped himself in cotton batting, which caught fire and was fatally burned.
Robert Taylor's famous stallion Startle, the sire of many celebrated trotters, including Majolica, with a record of 2:15, died in New York last week, aged 21 years.
Governor Marble, of Maine, has appointed James G. Blaine among the other commissioners to attend the Centennial celebration of Washington's inauguration in New York, April 30th.
A Christmas gathering at East Prospect, Penn., was thrown from the second to the first floor of the building which had suddenly collapsed. Numbers were bruised and cut, but none seriously.
The London police believe that they are on the right clew to the author of the Whitechapel murders. They have succeeded in locating him in the vicinity of Drury Lane, by tracing letters written by him.
Ira Payne, the American gun expert, now in Paris, asserts that he has discovered a process for the manufacture of gold from an alloy of silver and copper, and is trying to raise funds to start the proper works.
The Ottawa board of trade has petitioned the Dominion government to grant a subsidy to a fast line of steamers from Quebec to Liverpool. The desire is compete with the New York and Liverpool steamers.
Pierre Beaumont who was supposed to be dead and whose sisters had been appointed to administer his estate, turned up at Shohola, Penn., the other day and secured orders revoking the letters of administration.
An explosion of gas caused great damage in Boston, recently. Two men were blown 20 feet in the air and Fort Hill square and adjacent buildings received a terrible wrenching. The explosion tore the street up.

THE AGRICULTURALIST

Newspaper Notes Concerning the Farm and of Especial Interest to the Pacific Coast Husbandman.
Be certain that there is plenty of water where the cows are turned out to pasture. Clean, pure water is indispensable to the milk cow.
Never wait for rain when you have a crop under cultivation. Keep right on cultivating and you will be surprised to find how your crop will withstand the drought.
Many farmers in western New York gave up the wool business as unprofitable long ago, but still keep sheep, and say that keeping the mutton breeds is one of the best paying branches of farming.
Tramping upon the hay in a barn often causes horses to refuse it. To pass from the barn-yard into the barn and walk over the hay leaves odors which are quickly recognized by the animals when such hay is fed to them.
Chopped clover-hay scalded is a cheap and excellent food for hogs, and they will thrive on it while growing, with but little grain. Bulky food is necessary for the distention of the stomach, and there is nothing so nutritious for that purpose as the scalded clover.
The price of onions is lower this year than for some time past. This is due to a large increase of area planted throughout the east, and to an unusually large crop; the insects and diseases that usually attack the onion having been far less prevalent this year than usual.
After winter grain is sown there is yet time to remedy defects of soil and exposure. If there is a knoll in the field it is probably the poorest part of the lot, and one or more loads of manure distributed over it will have a wonderful effect, not alone upon the grain crop, but on the grass seeding.
Good cider vinegar is always salable, and it pays to convert the surplus apples into cider for the purpose of making vinegar. The artificial vinegar cannot be used for choice pickles and other purposes for which good cider vinegar only is adapted, and does not, therefore, largely compete with it.
Don't try to crowd 50 hens into a poultry house suitable for only 25, as the larger the flock the fewer the eggs, proportionately, unless they have perfect accommodations. As a rule, small flocks give a larger profit from the same outlay than when numbers are kept that cannot be properly provided for.
Parsnips, salsify and horseradish can remain in the rows where grown, as freezing does not injure them. If they are covered with litter, however, it will prevent sudden thawing around them in the spring. It is too much warmth that does injury in winter to such crops, rather than cold. A few warm days in winter may be more detrimental than beneficial.
The first signs of disease in a flock should prompt the herdsmen to at once remove all animals not affected to a new, clean location. It is better to kill an animal that is suspected of having a contagious disease than to attempt a cure. Delay is dangerous. Precaution in the beginning is better than any work that can be done in attempting to effect a cure after the disease secures a hold.
Best farmers who give no particular attention to horses usually drive them to a loose rein. This is well enough with the "old family horse," in whom you have perfect confidence. It is never safe, however, with a young and spirited horse. Never drive such an animal with so loose a rein that you cannot instantly command the situation, whatever happens.
Pork made from a considerable portion of apple diet is peculiarly sweet in flavor. Hogs will fatten more rapidly on sweet apples than sour; if apples are principally depended upon; but if grain is fed with apples the sour will do even better than the sweet, as the acid will assist in the digestion of the grain. It would be better to feed corn for a few weeks before killing, to harden the pork.
In California turkeys are raised in flocks numbering several thousand. They are placed in charge of a herder, who drives them as he would a flock of sheep. They range over miles of territory in a day, and live almost entirely by foraging. When the grain is cut and harvested the turkeys are turned into the immense wheat and barley fields and the birds do the gleaning and become fat and ready for market at very little cost.
One article of food cannot supply all the necessary sustenance, because it may lack some of the essential elements and is sure to have some in insufficient quantity. A normal appetite, that sure guide to the wants of nature, craves a variety of foods. It is not necessary to make the ration costly; a little thought will provide a variety in the ration and without greater cost. As to regularity in feeding, it has been amply demonstrated that animals do not thrive so well when fed irregularly as when they get their food at certain seasons.
A practical dairyman gives the following reasons why he was more successful with his cows than his neighbors were: "I'll tell you," said he, "it all depends where a man looks when he feeds his cows. My neighbors all look at the feed; consequently, they easily learn to scamp the cow all they dare to. When I feed I look at the cow just as I would any machine if I was feeding it. You want to watch the machine and not the feed. It is a mighty easy thing for a farmer to get stingy feeding a cow and beat himself out of dollars in trying to save cents."
Among the many purposes to which old wagon tires may be applied is the gate hinge. An old tire, too much worn for further service in its original capacity, is cut in two at the middle, and the end of each piece is turned with an eye or socket to form half of a hinge. Then four inches from the socket the bar is bent to an angle. The other ends of the two pieces are then welded together in the form of a V, the width of the open end being governed by that of the gate. The lower hinge is made in the usual manner, with an upright pin at one end, and a thread and nut at the other. The upper one may be made in the form of a band, which is driven over the gate-post and fastened by nails driven through holes punched for the purpose in the band.
When the corn is shelled the cobs are worth caring for for various useful purposes. They make the best fuel for the smoke-house, giving the hams and bacon a delicate and agreeable flavor, free from the pungency of oak and other wood, which contains much oil. They make good kindling for fires, and they are equally good for this purpose when saturated with a solution of one pound of saltpeter in two gallons of water and dried. They then burn fiercely, giving out quick heat sufficient to kindle a coal fire. But they are also good for feeding, as they contain as much nutriment as straw, and where straw is scarce the whole year may be ground together with advantage. The husks are still more nutritious, and may be ground up with the ears in mills made for that purpose.
In storing celery for winter small quantities for family use can be stored in boxes by first boring inch holes four inches from the bottom at each end and side of the box. Turn the box on end and pack the celery in layers the narrow way of the box. To each layer of celery in position sprinkle over the roots only enough earth to mulch them well. Continue until the box is full. When you set the box down shake or jar the box to settle the dirt among the roots of the plants. Then take a watering pot with nozzle and pour water through the augur holes in the ends until all of the soil is thoroughly saturated, and 'tis done. The box can be set in any convenient niche of the cellar, and only needs occasional watering (always through the augur holes) to have a supply of crisp, tender celery at short notice, without the trouble of grubbing in the frozen ground and exposing both yourself and the whole lot of celery in the trench.
The increasing use of windmills for pumping water, etc., suggests that they could be made the foundation of a fire department on the farm, that would prove efficient in many cases. Three-fourths of the farm conflagrations are discovered so early that the prompt application of 20 gallons of water would put out the fire. But it is impossible to get water soon enough when it must be carried to the garret or loft in buckets. With a 14-foot windmill and a strong double-acting force-pump, a continuous stream may be forced a thousand feet and to a height of a hundred feet. But as the windmill and well are usually near the house and barn, it would rarely be necessary to have the water forced farther than two hundred feet or raised higher than fifty feet. The pipes are, of course, brought near to if not into, the barn and house. And with a few feet of hose attached to the hydrant in the yard or building, a supply of water sufficient at the critical moment, would be at command. The hose could be taken through windows or doors. If it is feared that at such a time there might not be enough breeze to operate the windmill, we have only to remember, how often an account of a conflagration also says "a stiff breeze" or a strong gale was blowing at the time. When there is not enough air stirring to operate the windmill, a fire may be readily subdued by buckets of water.
Within the last three months nearly a hundred orphan boys under 12 years of age have been brought to Findlay and Fostoria, Ohio, to work in the glass factories. They come mostly from St. John's asylum, Brooklyn, and are under contract for a year at nominal wages. This importation of child labor will be stopped.

PORTLAND MARKET REPORT

GROCERIES—Sugars have fallen 1c since our last report. We quote C 75c, extra C 6c, dry granulated 75c, cube, crushed, and powdered 74c. Coffee firm, Java 25c, Costa Rica 17c@20c, Salvador 18c@19c, Arabuck's roasted 23c. In canned table fruit, assorted, 2 1/2 @ 2 1/2 per doz; pie fruit, assorted, 2 1/2 @ 1.33. Ss \$3.75.
PROVISIONS—Oregon hams are quoted at 14c, breakfast bacon 14c, shoulders 10c, Eastern meat is quoted as follows: Hams 13@14, breakfast b. con 13c, sides 14c.
FRUITS—Green fruit receipts 1253 bxs. Hard fruit is scarce, and the supply of apples not equal to the demand. Apples 50@75 per bx, Mexican oranges \$1, lemons 2@2.50 per bx, bananas \$3.50@4.50, quinces 40@50c.
VEGETABLES—Market well supplied. Cabbage 2 1/2c per lb, carrots and turnips 75c per sack, red pepper 1c per lb, potatoes 35c@40c per sack, sweet 1 1/2@2c per lb.
DRIED FRUITS—Receipts 493 pkgs. Sun-dried apples 4@5c per lb, factory dried 3c, factory plums 7@9c, Oregon prunes 7@8c, pears 9@10c, peaches 8@10c, raisins \$2.25 per box, California figs 8c, Smyrna 18c per lb.
DAIRY PRODUCE—Butter receipts for the week 173 pkgs. Fancy creamery 35c per lb, choice daisy 35c, medium 37@30c common 30c, eastern 24c.
EGGS—Receipts 120 cases @ Oregon 27c, eastern 25c.
POULTRY—Chickens \$6@4.50 for large young and \$4.75 for old, turkeys 12@14c per lb, ducks \$5@7 per dozen, geese \$4@6.
WOOL—Receipts for week 200,800 lbs. Valley 18@20c Eastern Oregon 8@14c.
HOPS—Receipts for week 1278 lbs. Choice 12@14c.
GRAIN—Receipts for week 94,206 cts. Valley \$1.35@1.40, Eastern Oregon \$1.30@1.40, Oats 34@35c.
FLOUR—Receipts for week 6700 bbls. Standard \$4.75, other brands \$4.50.
FEED—Barley \$23 per ton, mill do \$18@18.50, shorts \$16.50, bran \$15.50, baled hay \$13@15, loose \$12@15.
FRESH MEATS—Beef, live, 3 1/2@4c, dressed 7c, mutton, live, 3 1/2@3c, dressed 7c, lambs \$2.50 each, hogs, live, 5 1/2@6c, dressed 7@7 1/2, veal 6@8c.
When large quantities of roots are to be stored and there is not cellar room for this purpose, it is far better to construct pits than to fill the cellar of one's dwelling house with a general assortment of roots and vegetables to vitiate the air of the house. If it is properly constructed, roots will keep better in a pit than in an ordinary cellar. The pits are dug three or four feet deep, six feet wide and as long as needed. The roots are stacked in these, beginning at the end of the pit, and following two feet of the length; a space of six inches is left, and another portion of two feet is built up as an end, in each case piling the roots to the ground level; the spaces are then filled in with earth, and the pits will present a series of sections of two feet of roots and six inches of earth. The roots are covered lightly at first, but when cold weather comes, put on about two feet of soil, rounded and smoothed to carry off water.
The annual consumption of feathers in this country for bedding purposes is estimated to amount to 3,000,000 pounds. To furnish this 3,000,000 healthy geese must give up their feathers in a year. The geese furnishing these downy pillows and beds of ease are to be found mostly in southern Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee and Kentucky. The climate is cold enough to cause the feathers to be fine and soft, and not too cold to make their care a matter of unprofitable labor to farmers. Below this territory the feathers are quilly and free from down; above, the cold winter make geese-farming unprofitable, for when the geese can't find food for herself, because of frozen land and water, she has to be fed, and she'll eat as much corn as a sheep.
David Hart, a blacksmith and training with the Salvation army at Portland, took morphine and told the summoned physician that he had had the drug for two years, but had not had the courage to use it before. He said he wanted something given him to make death easy, and when asked why he didn't jump in the Willamette river, he said he did not know how to swim.
The unofficial list of representatives-elect, recently published, shows that 20 Republicans were elected from the following Southern States: Kentucky, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 2; Missouri, 4; North Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 4. Of these 13 are now members.
The loss of life so far by the burning of the steamer Hanna, near Plaquemine, La., on the Mississippi river, is placed at 24. Of the injured men in the hospital four or five will die. The flags of the steamers in the harbor of New Orleans have been placed at half-mast.
Mrs. Ira P. Stockwell, of Sydney, W. T., was accidentally killed last week by her 14-year-old son, who was inserting a badly fitting cartridge in his gun.
There were erected at Tacoma last year 1014 houses, valued at \$2,459,572.

RELIGIOUS AND EDUCATIONAL.

This is the advice of Dr. John Hall to theological students: "The way to get out of a small place is to be very efficient in it."
—To divert at any time a troublesome fancy, run to thy books. They presently fix thee to them, and drive dull care from thy thoughts. They always meet thee with the same kindness.—Fuller.
—There are four great evils of today which are sapping our sociological life, and not the least of these is the craze and the curse of intemperance, indiscriminate novel-reading.—Christian at Work.
—"We all do fade as a leaf." But how beautiful are the fading leaves! As the beauty of youth fades from our cheeks, and the beautiful form of early manhood bows under the weight of years, are we gaining in moral beauty and increasing in spiritual strength?—United Presbyterian.
—Upward of 2,000,000 of the youths of India are to-day receiving a liberal English education. For the most part it is purely secular. The spread of Western knowledge is opening the flood-gates of infidelity, of non-religious lowering the people in a state not only credulous, but godless.
—What we are doing for the children to-day, we are doing for the Nation tomorrow. This is the teacher's field of work, and it is a grand one. Let the politician work upon the grown-up man all he may; he can do little, after all—that is, in improving their mentally and morally. They have passed the plastic stage. But there is hope in the children. Those who would do good to humanity will be most successful who take the children by the hand. The teacher is the true state-builder.—The School Journal.
—"One man's food is another's poison," is a saying long admitted to be true as regards the body. It is more decidedly true as regards the mind. The books which are healthy food for one intellect may prove ruinous to another. They who prescribe courses of reading for relatives or friends are generally disappointed in the result. Perhaps no better plan for the education of a boy can be adopted than that suggested by Dr. Johnson: "Teach him to read and turn him loose in a promiscuous library."
WIT AND WISDOM.
—The only "neglected genus" in this country is the genius that neglects himself.
—Many weaknesses of human nature are distorted virtues.—Mail and Express.
—"Endeavor so to live that when you are yourself you will not be ashamed of yourself."
—Be content to do the things you can, and fret not because you can not do every thing.
—A wink is as good as a written prescription to a knowing soda-water clerk.—Hotel Mail.
—Though a man must be sincere in order to be great, he need not be great in order to be sincere.
—Some people are so feeble-minded that they never have a will of their own until they make it.—Western Pioneer.
—The ends must always justify the means. If the ends are mean, it won't justify you; leave it alone. If the end don't pay, drop it.
—Character, like porcelain-ware, must be painted before it is glazed. There can be no change of color after it is burned in.—Bucher.
—In order to appreciate success we must know failure, and our greatest successes consist not in never failing but in persistently conquering such failures.
—We are prone to forget what we do know; whereas we should consider that whatever good thing we know is only so far good to us as it is remembered to purpose.—Richard Cecil.
—Jealousy is the meanest of all human passions, and a fellow never realizes it so forcible as he does when he can't help being jealous away down to his boots himself.—Somerville Journal.
—False happiness is like false money. It passes, says Pope, for a time as well as the true, and serves some ordinary occasions; but when it is brought to the touch, we find the lightness and alloy, and feel the loss.
—Selfishness begins w'f thinkin' owr much o' one's ain duties and influences and woe bit ways instead of living right out o' oneself, like the bonnie flowers that smell sweet whether they're sniffed or not.—Edward Garrett.
—About the worst calamity that could befall any man would be the power to have every thing he desired for the asking, although to the average mortal this condition seems the ideal of all possible expectation and good.
—When a man puts out a few thousands on a venture in which there is great risk and not much morality, and finds himself a few months later a millionaire, he is not apt to notice or pity those who have been pushed down by his rise.