

POLK COUNTY OBSERVER.

VOL. I.

MONMOUTH, POLK COUNTY, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1889.

NO. 45.

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

An interesting Resume of the Week's Happenings in Both Branches of the Nation's Legislature.

Samuel N. Bixley has been appointed postmaster at Kelso, Cowlitz county.

James P. Starr has been appointed postmaster at Syracuse, Polk county, in place of Frank R. Hubbard, resigned.

A railway mail service has been established on the route from Woodville to Snohomish, six times a week to take effect from the 28th.

Governor-elect Hovey has left Washington for his home in Indiana. He will resign his seat in the House, which will be filled by a special election next month.

Senator Cullom has reported favorably a bill from the commerce committee to increase the salary of the surgeon general of the marine hospital service to \$6000 per annum.

The total coinage of the United States mints for the twelve months ending the calendar year of 1888 was \$65,318,614, divided as follows: Gold, \$31,380,080; silver, \$33,925,606; minor, \$912,200.

The Secretary of the Navy has issued peremptory orders to hasten the work of preparing the United States ships Atlanta, Vandavia and Mohican for sea. It is reported that the last two named will be sent to Samoa to reinforce the Nipsic.

A party of Dakota Democrats, recently elected delegates by the Mitchell convention, are now in Washington, their object being to secure necessary legislation to carry into effect the desires of the convention, and they express the intention of remaining there until that is accomplished.

The President gave a state dinner of forty-eight covers to members of the cabinet Friday night, the second of the winter's series of official entertainments. The White House was handsomely decorated for the occasion. A miniature lake, with basins lined with evergreens and red and white roses, was the principal floral decoration.

Class Sprockels has made a statement before the Senate committee of finance, concerning his experiments in the manufacture of beet sugar in California, intended as an argument against the proposed reduction of duty on sugar and the substitution thereof of a bounty of 1 cent a pound. During the hearing it was intimated that the committee would insert in the bill a provision, making the bounty of one cent a pound operative until the year 1890.

A letter was laid before the Senate Friday from the Secretary of the Treasury in reply to a resolution of the Senate asking for copies of the ruling made by the department as to the classification of gill-nets made in Scotland, and imported for salmon fisheries on the Pacific Coast. The Secretary says no decision has been made during the past year on gill-nets ready and fit for use by salmon fishermen.

The members of the Senate committee having charge of the tariff bill have decided to offer an amendment making the duty on lumber \$1.50 per 1000 feet, a reduction of 25 per cent in the bill as reported from the committee. It was first proposed to make the duty \$1.25, but a compromise on a \$1.50 rate was secured by the senators from the Northwest. A proviso will be inserted that this rate shall be conditional on Canada removing her export duty on lumber.

C. C. W. West, Governor of Utah, is now in Washington. He intends to appear before the House committee on territories to oppose the admission of Utah as a state. This sentiment, he says, is shared by nearly every Gentleman on the broad ground that Mormons are unfitted to exercise the rights of citizenship. He says: "To give these people sovereign rights, as proposed, would be to place every non-Mormon in Utah completely at their mercy. Under the territorial form of government we are protected by Congress and the Executive. Confer the right of Statehood upon Utah and the Mormons would frame a constitution and laws so unjust and arbitrary in their character that an outsider could not live among them. I favor leaving it a territory, but so amending the law as to abridge the power of the church."

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.

PACIFIC COAST NOTES.

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

Fresno tailors are striking for better wages.

Albuquerque, N. M., built 300 houses last year.

Wallula and Walla Walla are now connected by rail.

John P. St. John will make his residence in California.

Traver, Tulare county, Cal., now boasts a cheese factory.

The penitentiary of Washington Territory is now heated by steam.

A gang of hoodlums at Victoria attacked the salvation army recently.

North Yakima is soon to have a system of waterworks to cost \$100,000.

Attempts have been made to rob people while getting on trains at Colton.

J. C. Leisure, of Pendleton, has resigned the position of deputy district attorney.

An effort is to be made in the Nevada legislature to obtain a charter for a lottery.

Many arrests have been made on account of the recent riot at the Newcastle mines.

The sealing schooners are all preparing to leave British Columbia ports for the north.

The repairing shops of the Oregon and Washington Territory road are to be located at Walla Walla.

The loose highwayman appears to be busily engaged in holding up stage coaches in northern California.

The wind from eastern Oregon blows alkali dust which settles on the glass of the Fort Casby lighthouse.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

A Brief Mention of Matters of General Interest.—Notes Gathered from Home and Abroad.

Race troubles are feared at Arcola, Miss.

Bernhardt gave ten performances at Cairo, Egypt, recently.

Last year 1350 people died of delirium tremens in England.

The Paris police will search the houses of all known anarchists.

The Sultan is one of the most enthusiastic chess players in Europe.

In Russia last year 80,000 drams were done away with by law.

Lord Coleridge has collected \$35,000 for the widow and daughters of Matthew Arnold.

The British government states that a successor to Sackville West will shortly be appointed.

Final preparations have been made for the official trial of the 15-inch pneumatic dynamite gun.

Another valuable coal deposit has just been discovered in Dakota, three miles north of Centerville.

The Italian railway system is undergoing a radical reform to facilitate the mobilization of troops.

The largest organ in the world is now being built in London for Sydney. It will cost about \$75,000.

France appears to be somewhat displeased over the debate in the U. S. Senate on the Panama canal project.

Eugene Wetherill, husband of Emma Abbott, the noted prima donna, died suddenly at Denver last week.

Mrs. Sheridan has accepted the design of Samuel M. Kitting, of New York, for the monument to General Sheridan.

President Carnot of France received nearly a thousand Christmas presents from his admiring fellow-citizens of the Republic.

THE AGRICULTURALIST

Newspaper Notes Concerning the Farm and of Especial Interest to the Pacific Coast Husbandman.

Georgia is to have an immigration bureau to encourage immigration to the State of industrious and intelligent farmers and mechanics.

Do not sell off your surplus hay or straw yet, or you may find yourself short of a supply before the winter is over. The amount to be retained depends on the condition of the stock and the severity of the weather between now and spring.

Every farmer's son should be educated to a knowledge of botany and to thoroughly understand all the points of the different breeds of stock, as well as be familiar with the nature of fertilizers and their fitness for certain crops and soils.

Do not be afraid to open the doors and windows of the cellar on clear days. It is much better to have pure air in the cellar than to keep it close and damp. When the cellar is musty and a disagreeable odor noticed the entire house is likewise affected.

A farm must not only be self-supporting but should pay a profit. When the farmer reaches that stage when he is compelled to borrow, or depend on some income from another source, his farm is unprofitable, and he should then endeavor not only to discover the cause of his loss but also aim to improve in some manner, in order that the farm may be self-supporting.

The most disagreeable thing on the farm in winter is mud, and, although it can not be entirely avoided, yet some of its disadvantages may be overcome by carefully draining every location that allows an excess of water to accumulate. When the cattle are compelled to stand knee deep in mud there is a loss of animal heat, and a greater proportion of food will be required to keep them in condition.

Churning cream when slightly sour, as is the custom in the Holstein dairies, yields butter of a peculiar and fine aroma. Butter made from very sour cream is destitute of this aroma, and has the taste which the Holstein butter acquires after keeping some time. Stirring of cream does not promote souring, but rather hinders it by increasing access of air; it may be advantageous in making the souring uniform.

For very early eggs warm, comfortable houses, proper feed, and good care are necessary. If the hens have to use all the feed they get to keep themselves warm, if they are not supplied with food containing egg-forming material, and if the houses are not kept clean and well ventilated, the egg basket need not be a large one. The roof of the poultry house should be tight, the sides well battened and the knot-holes covered, or the entire sides covered with tarred paper to prevent draughts, and the floor made in a way to take no drainage from the outside and be perfectly dry. For ventilation, any plan whereby the fowls can be supplied with pure fresh air without being subjected to draughts will answer.

On how many places is it a pleasure to visit the hen house? Although there has been a great change for the better during the last few years, the average hen house is still shunned by all who are not obliged to visit it. This is not surprising, as it is full of lice in summer, and in winter is foul with the stench from a year's accumulation of filth. This need not and ought not to be. The poultry on a place, especially if a pure breed is kept, should be a "joy forever." They never lose their interest. Each has its individuality, its likes and dislikes, like all other stock, and a half hour spent in watching them is always full of pleasure, and seldom without profit. Something new can be learned at every visit.

Wood ashes have too great a value to be wasted. Every farmer's family should make its own soap supply. It is cheaper for the farmer to make soap than to buy it. When not utilized on the farm, "soap grease" is either wasted or sold for a pittance. After the ashes are leached they are as good as before for manure, where the soil does not lack potash. If a teaspoonful of clean wood ashes is given every third day to horses in their feed they will very rarely need condition powders. The same amount given to cattle will have good results. Cattle, also swine, are frequently seen licking ashes where rubbish has been burned. The ashes given to hogs may be mixed with their salt. Ashes correct acidity of the stomach and destroys some intestinal worms. Wood ashes are a valuable fertilizer for all crops, but especially for orchard crops. They contain all the mineral elements required by plants. The fine condition and peculiar proportion of their ingredients make their real agricultural value greater than the value computed from chemical analysis. Coal ashes are comparatively worthless, but wood ashes should never be thrown away.

PORTLAND MARKET REPORT

GROCERIES—Sugars have fallen since our last report. We quote C 54c, extra C 52c, dry granulated 65c, cube, crushed and powdered 75c. Coffee firm, Guatemala 18y@21c, Java Rica 18y@21c, Rio 20y@21c, Salvador 19y@20c, Arabuckie roasted 23c.

PROVISIONS—Oregon hams are quoted at 13y@14c, breakfast bacon 13y@14c, Eastern meat (quoted as follows): Hams 13c 13y, Sinclears 14y 15c, Oregon breakfast bacon 13y@14c, Eastern 13y@13c.

FRUITS—Green fruit receipts 1239 bxs. Hard fruit is scarce, and the supply of apples not equal to the demand. Apples 65c@85 per bx, Mexican oranges \$1, lemons 40c@60 per bx, bananas \$3.50@4.50, quinces 40c@60.

VEGETABLES—Market well supplied. Cabbage 2c per lb, carrots and turnips 7c per sack, red pepper 3c per lb, potatoes 3y@4c per sack, sweet 1y@2c per lb.

DRIED FRUITS—Receipts 91 pkgs. Sun-dried apples 4y@5c per lb, factory raisins 8c, factory plums 7c@8c, Oregon prunes 7c@8c, pears 8y@10c, peaches 8y@10c, raisins 2y@3c per box, California figs 8c, Smyrna 18c per lb.

DAIRY PRODUCE—Oregon creamery and choice dairy 35c, medium 17c@20c California fancy 30c, choice dairy 27c, eastern 25c@30c.

EGGS—Receipts 293 cases, Oregon 25c. POULTRY—Chickens \$5.50@5.25, for large young and \$4.75 for old, turkeys 14c@15c per lb, ducks 7y@7 per dozen.

WOOL—Valley 18y@20c Eastern Oregon 10y@15c.

HOPS—Choice 8y@14c. GRAIN—Wheat \$1.35, Eastern Oregon \$1.30. Oats 33c@35c.

Flour—Standard \$4.50, other brands \$4.25, Dayton and Cascade \$4.10, Graham \$3.25, rye flour \$6, do Graham \$5.30.

FRESH MEATS—Beef, live, 3y@3y@4c, dressed 7c, mutton, live, 3y@3c, dressed 7c, lambs 8y@10c each, hogs, live, 5y@6c, dressed 7y@7y, veal 6y@8c.

The National Woolgrowers' Association met in convention at Washington last week. Resolutions were adopted declaring that while Congress maintained a general policy of protection, the wool growers and wool manufacturers in the United States have a right to demand that the duties on wool and on woolen and worsted goods shall be adjusted and maintained so as to secure to them the American market. The resolutions protest against the Senate tariff bill so far as it affects wool, and providing for a committee of seven to formulate such schedule of tariff duties for wool as may be deemed just and necessary, and to present the same to the finance committee of the Senate and urge its adoption. They further declare that the determination of the economic and financial policy of this government is so important to wool-growing and all other industries and business of the nation as to require immediate and definite legislation, and if this shall not be accomplished during the present Congress an early extra session of the 51st Congress is recommended.

Allowing each tree thirty feet of room (that is planting the trees thirty feet apart in checked rows), an acre will permit of about fifty trees. They will not be ready for market, or to be sawed up as lumber, until they are about twenty years of age. Their value will then depend on the kind of trees and the number of feet of lumber that can be sawed from each tree. If the trees are twenty-five feet apart about sixty-five trees can be grown on an acre, but the closer the trees the slower the growth and the sooner they must be cut down. Each acre of land can be made to produce \$1000 in choice trees in twenty years, or at the rate of \$25 per acre annually, while the yield of nuts will more than pay the interest on capital. No correct estimate can be made on the value of an acre of walnut. In Indiana recently trees sold at the rate of \$3000 per acre, but they were very large. If an application of ashes be given the trees every year the growth will be increased. The profit arises from the utilization of land that would remain idle if not occupied by trees.

Charles Johnson, recently an inmate of the British Columbia penitentiary, and now a resident of Portland, was engaged last week in circulating a paper in Victoria headed, "Prison reform and hidden secrets, a brief account of the tyranny, injustice and oppression practiced in the British Columbia penitentiary." The charges made against the officials are very serious.

It is expected that not more than one million pounds of tobacco will be raised in Egypt this year, although, three million pounds have been produced in former seasons. The decrease is owing to the recent action of the Khedive in putting a tax of \$157.50 on each acre of ground devoted to this crop.

A WOMAN OF POWER.

The Career of Miss Lee, Now the Potted Wife of Count Walderssee.

The Countess von Walderssee, who is now the most powerful woman in Europe, began life as a grocer's daughter. Her father was the late David B. Lee, head of the old grocery house of Lee, Dater & Miller. Mary was the only child and was beautiful, ambitious and clever. She was sent to school to the famous Bolton priory on the Sound, which was then the most elegant and exclusive of young ladies' seminaries. Immediately upon leaving school she went abroad and in a short time sent cards home to her schoolmates announcing her marriage to Prince Frederick Emile August of Schleswig-Holstein, a cousin of Queen Victoria. He was not in very good repair, but she was decidedly damaged in fact, being old and being on the point of putting his second foot in the grave, one having been there some time.

She took this dilapidated scion of royalty to the East in hopes of restoring him, but to quote the sorrowful phrase of the Misses Bolton, "who had been her instructor, 'He only reached Bayrott to die.'" Then the widowed Princess, with her beauty and her millions, was pursued by every fortune hunter in Europe and had beside some of the proudest positions and titles offered her. When she relinquished her high rank to marry a Prussian Count her friends began to think that they were mistaken regarding her overweening ambition, but to one of those gossips at Tuxedo, who was in Europe at the time, she said: "Von Walderssee is only a Count now, but wait—with his talents and my money and encouragement he will be something more." The young Count soon became marked in Berlin as a man who knew his business thoroughly. He distinguished himself in the Franco-Prussian war, and was German Charge d'Affaires during the occupation of Paris. Meantime the grocer's daughter was not idle. She warmly espoused Bismarck's party as opposed to that of the Crown Princess, and when the former began to foment discord between young William and his mother she was William's confidant and sympathizer. Then William married, and the spirited, intellectual and liberal-minded Crown Princess, who would be a second Elizabeth were she allowed to come to the English throne instead of her fat and dissipated brother, discovered that her daughter-in-law was a dull-witted German haus frau, from whom she could expect no sympathy, and was disposed to rather contemptuously pass her over. This the Countess von Walderssee saw and used. William's wife deeply resented her brilliant mother-in-law's contempt and fell back on the Countess for advice, and allowed her to manage her salon as she pleased and for her own uses. When Frederick came to the throne the Von Walderssees were promptly sent into political exile at Vienna, but departed cheerfully, knowing the hour of their triumphal return would not be long delayed. Now Von Walderssee, not yet fifty years old, has succeeded the great Von Moltke, as commander of all the Imperial forces. The Countess is a pet and trusted employe of Bismarck. The Emperor is deeply attached to her and the Empress is her most intimate friend, so that all things considered the New York grocer's daughter is to-day the most powerful woman in Europe.—Brooklyn Citizen.

WANTED TO STAY.

What Rightly-Directed Persuasion and Arguments Will Accomplish.

[Railway station in the backwoods of Kentucky. Old Zeb Trotter and his wife, who have come out, a distance of fifteen miles, to sell two dozen eggs and three pounds of blue butter, are anxiously awaiting the arrival of the train, which, if the weather is good, makes two trips per week.]

Zeb—"Mahaly, let's go home. That fetch-taked train ain't comin', nohow."

Mahaly—"O, now, don't be snatched. It'll be erlong attar while."

Zeb—"Yas, but we've been awaitin' putty nigh ever sense sun-up, an' it ain't come yit."

Mahaly—"But it mout be along almost any hour. Do you reckon a body wants ter stay out yander in the hills an' work all the time an' not see nuthin'? Jest because you don't keer nuthin' fur the 'joyments an' 'citements of this here life you think that nobody else do. Here I've been er layin' off to see these kyars ever since last fall was six year ago, an' now that the good Lawd has give me the chance, you wantter snatch it away from me. I ain't a goin' to move er peg from here till that train comes."

Zeb—"That terbacker ought to be suckered."

Mahaly—"Don't keer if it do."

Zeb—"An' I bet the chickens air scratchin' up the ingons."

Mahaly—"Let 'em scratch."

Zeb—"Old Miz Buck will git her soap made 'fo' you."

Mahaly (much excited)—"Git the hosses, Zeb, an' les hurry on home."—Arkansas Traveler.