# POLK COUNTY OBSERVER.

A SEMI-WEEKLY JOURNAL, DEVOTED TO THE GENERAL INTERESTS OF OUR COUNTY.

# VOL. I.

# DALLAS, POLK COUNTY, OREGON, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5. 1889.

#### C. C. DOUGHTY, PUBLISHER OF -

.Representatives

Polk Gounty Observer SEMI-WEEKLY, - \$2 Per Year. COUNTY OFFICIAL DIRECTORY. J. S. STOUFFER. G. W. MCLENCH / G. W. MCBEE. IRA S. SMITH. C. G. COAD. WM. ELLIS W.I. REYNOLDS E. T. HATCH. F. S. POWELL / C. G. FISHER County Judge Commissioners Clerk Treasurer Co. School Superintendent Senator

PROFESSIONAL CARDS. JOHN J. DALY, Attorney and Counselor at Law, Will promptly attend to all legal business en-trusted to him. DALLAS. . . . . OREGON. WARREN TRUITT, Attorney and Counselor at Law, stain. DALLAS. OREGON. Will practice in all the courts of the State. Office in Court House.

J. H. TOWNSEND, Attorney and Counselor at Law, PHYSICIANS' CARDS. N. L. WOODS, M. D., Physician and Surgeon. Does general practice in any part of the County. Office in Wood's Drug Store. J. K. LOCKE, M. D., Physician and Surgeon. that they may reap where they have OFFICE: Buena Vista, Oregon O. D. BUTLER. T. J. LER. LEE & BUTLER,

Physicians and Surgeons Will answer calls from any point in the county. Telegraphic communication from Monmouth. Office up stairs in Opera block. INDEPENDENCE. - - OREGON. soft and moist for the horse's feet and MARK HAYTER, that next to the original soil other DALLAS. At Dental parlors does any kind of dental work with neatness and dispatch. BANKS. WM. SAVAGE, Banker. | M. M. ELLIS, Cashier.

Dallas City Bank

S.

ND.

S

RS

...

5

-The members of a Naugatuck (Conn.) family were awakened the Touching Incident of Life on the Great other night by the screams of a young woman who dreamed some one had kissed her. The father of the family appeared with a lamp in one hand and a revolver in the other. No man could be found, but the daughter said one must have been about, as she felt Suddenly my attention was attracted thoroughly solved when a pet kitten sheriff emerged from behind a pillow.

-The Statue of Liberty on Bedloe Island has wonderful attractions for the swarms of birds that are at present migrating southward. They become attracted by the glare of the electric light, and rushing headlong upon it are killed in great numbers. The other morning no less than five hundred birds were picked<sup>o</sup>up at the base of the statue. Twenty-five distinct species were counted. Nearly all of them were small, and most of them were "yellow" birds. A red-headed woodpecker, two cat birds and several English sparrows were among the

-In a recent scientific discussion of "Benevolence" it was said: "Experience is showing more and more that the "exiles' begging song." No atthose who are supposed to stand in need of all this voluntary benevolence derive but little real advantage from it; that, on the contrary, it further weakens their already defective characters, and tends to make their condition one of chronic and constitutional dependence on the assistance of others. The time, we hold, has now come, when, broadly speaking, the best thing any man can do is to hold himself erect, to practice a high-minded justice in his relations with his fellow-men, and to eschew all modes of action calculated to encourage others to expect not sown.'

## Good Floors For Stables.

A great deal has been written about clay, stone, concrete and brick as materials for the floors of stalls and loose boxes. The theory is that earth is cool moist material is desirable. In practice a stall or box with no other floor than clay soon becomes an offensive quagmire, a stone floor is cold and hard, concrete is soon broken up by the continual stamping of the ironshod feet, and bricks absorb offensive fluids to a greater extent than wood. A floor of good sound spruce or pine EXILES' BEGGING SONG.

Siberian Road. I shall never forget the emotions roused in me by this song when I heard it for the first time. We were sitting, one cold, raw, autumnal day, by a peculiar, low-pitched, quavering sound which came to us from a distance, and which, although made apparently by human voices, did not resemble any thing that I had ever befor@heard. It was not singing, nor chanting, nor wailing for the dead, but a strange blending of all three. It suggested vaguely the confused and commingled sobs, moans and entreaties of human beings who were being subjected to torture, but whose sufferings were not acute enough to seek expression if shricks or high-pitched cries. As the sound came nearer we went out into the street in front of the station-house and saw approaching a chained party of about a hundred bare-headed convicts, who, surrounded by a corden of soldiers, were marching slowly through the settlement singing tempt was made by the singers to pitch their voices oin harmony or to pronounce the words in unison; there were no pauses or rests at the ends of the lines; and I could not make out any distinctly marked rhythm. The singers seemed to be constantly breaking in upon one another with slightly modulated variations of the same slow, melancholy air, and the effect produced was that of a rude fugue or of a funeral chant, so arranged as to be sung like a round or catch by a of Political "Fine Work." hundred male voices, each independent of the others in time and melody, but

words were as follows: Have pity on us. O our fathers! Don's forget the unwilling travelers. Don't forget the long-imprisoned. Feed us, O our fathers -help us! Feed and help the poor and needy! Have compassion, O our fathers! Have compassion, O our mothers! For the sake of Christ, have mercy On the prisoners-the shut-up ones! Behind walls of stone and gratings, Behind oaken doors and padlocks, Behind bars and locks of iron, Ve are held in close confinement. We have parted from our fathers, From our mothers, We from all our kin have parted. We are prisoners;

Pity us, O, our fathers!

the apex. The scholar's wrinkles dry in a windy place, not in the sun.

ple who bet on races have the most If you do not care to put a second astonishing crop of wrinkles I ever blanket in the first ammoniated water, in a dirty post station on the great saw, save on an elephant."-London which must be done promptly, as the Tit-Bits.

BUILD WELL.

High on the granite walls the builders, toping, Heaved up the massive blocks and slabs to With swart and streaming brows and straining

Under the simmer's blaze.

And higher yet, amid the chills of autumn, Tier upon tier and 2rch upon arch arose: And still crept upward, coldly, wearily, slowly, 'Mid winter's sifting snows.

From stage to stage up springs the master-Instructing, cheering, chidingthere and there;

Scanning with scrutiny severe and rigid Each lusty laborer's share.

Anon his voice to those most distant shouting Through the hoarse trumpet makes his orders swell

Or utters words like these, to rouse and hearten : "Build well, my men, build well

"The ropes are strong and new, and sound the pulleys:

The derrick's beams are equal to the strain; Unerring are the level, line and plummet; LetQuaught be done in vain!

"Build that these walls to coming generations Your skill, your strength, your flithfulnes shall tell:

That all may say, as storms and centuries test them The men of old built well!"

And effer thus speaks the great Master-Builder To us, where'er our "journey work" may be; Whate'er the toil, the season, or the structure,

Build well-build worthily !" -H. S. Brown, in Journal of Education.

# BALLOT REFORM.

This is one of the reforms which must come, for without it our system all following a certain scheme of vocal- of popular government can not bee game can also be kept in one for many ization, and taking up by turns the maintained. Every election, especially same dreary, wailing theme. The in our large cities, shows that until this reform is secured all other reforms are impossible of accomplishment. The control of the election machinery, of the printing and distributing of the ballots, must be taken from the politicians and put into the hands of the State. That is, we must take the power to control our elections away from the men who have no responsibility and ne interest in government save extravagance and corruption and put it into the hands of officials who are sworn to do their duty. Of what use is it to try to get honest men nominated for office when we If you can imagine these words, half leave in the hands of the political planks, thoroughly soaked through sung, half chanted, slowly, in broken workers the power to defeat them at with crude petroleum, will resist time and on a low key, by a hundred the polls by distributing fraudulent or dampness and decay for a long time voices, to an accompaniment made by defective ballots, or by making "deals" and keep clean and wholesome. In a the jingling and clashing of chains, and "dickers" which cheat the people stal a double floor is laid, the lower you will have a faint idea of the of their will? We have talked for years "Miloserdnaya," or exiles' begging about reforming the primaries and the nominating conventions, but not one particle of progress has been made. Under the Massachusetts law any four mournful and depressing. It seemed hundred voters, in case of a candidate for State office, and any one hundred voters, in case of a candidate for a lesin an unnatural position with a con- spair that had been felt by generations ser office, by uniting in a petition in of human beings in the etapes, the for- behalf of a candidate of their choice, can have his name printed upon the official ballots and have those ballots the muddy street between the lines of distributed at the polls at the public gray log houses, children and peasant expense. What more certain way of women appeared at the doors with reforming the primaries could be detheir hands full of bread, meat, eggs, vised than this? If there were such a or other articles of food, which they aw in New York City there would be put into the caps or bags of the three an end to the astonishing spectacle or four shave? headed convicts who which is there so often presented of a acted as alms-collectors. The jing- "boss" setting up a candidate of his ling of chains and the wailing voices own for office in spite of all protests, of the exiles grew gradually fainter and frequently electing him in spite of and fainter as the party passed up the all opposition. Under such a law both street, and when the sounds finally "bosses" and primaries would in a very died away in the distance and we short time lose their present domifelt a strange sense of dejection, as if In fact, there is scarcely a form of the day had suddenly grown colder, iniquity known to our election methods darker, and more dreary, and the which a good ballot law would not cares and sorrows of life more burden- eradicate. We should be rid at one stroke of the assessments upon candidates, of the bribing and bulldozing of voters, of the nomination of notoriously unfit candidates, of "deals" and "dickers" and "trades" at the polls. All these would disappear, for the simple reason that the machinery of elections would be taken out of the hands of irresponsible and often dishonest men. Such an obvious and imperative reform as this can not be long delayed. -Century.

form on his brow, while the scheming As the blanket hangs there drying, a politician's come round his eyes, where little water will collect in the four corthey look for all the world like the ners, which is rather an amusement to spokes of a wheel. Some of the peo- squeeze out to help the drying process.

> ammonia evaporates quickly, divide the quantity, taking half a pint for each one of the two tubs, and wash two blankets at once. The evaporating ammonia, released by the warmth of the water, can only escape through the blanket, which is laid over it in the tub before the water is applied. Hence you get the value of every drop of it. In ordinary cleaning with ammonia, for paint, brasses, silver, etc., mix it with aold water first, and then add a little warm water to the pail. - Public Ledger.

# " ICE ON THE FARM.

A to Not Only & Comfort But Has And Many Economie Uses.

The majority of farmers look on ice as a luxury only to be enjoyed by the rich who live in cities and regard an ice-house as a needless estravagance. Ice in summer is a luxury, but it is also a substance that promotes health and comfort and which has many economic uses. Unless a farmer has a 18. spring over which he can build a milk-house he will find it difficult to make could be run 200 feet below. There is no doubt house he will find it difficult to make first-class butter if he has no ice. He will also experience much trouble in to so fore, which, at 35 a ton, will, as you will keeping the butter in a condition to be sent to market. With ice milk and butter can be kept in good condition with but little trouble. Cool milk is a most desirable drink during the summer, and one that should be used to a greater extent than it is. An icehouse or an ice-box is the best place for keeping eggs, vegetables and small fruits. Fresh meat, poultry, fish and days. A supply of ice promotes economy more than it does luxury. It enables one to save many things that would otherwise be wasted.

Ice saves fuel during the summer by diminishing the amount of cooking that is done daily if not three times each day. All kinds of cooked provisions as well as those that are not cooked can be keep a long time in an ice-box. During the summer we desire food and drink that are much warmer or much cooler than the temperature of the air, and it matters but little in which one of these conditions they are in. At a hotel table in a city about half the persons will call for ice tea for supper, while the other half will take that which is nearly boiling. To be grateful to the taste its temperature must be much above or below that of the body and the surrounding air. During the summer the majority of persons prefer frozen cream to hot puddings, and with a supply of ice it is cheaper. There is no good reason why farmers should not have ice cream on their tables during the summer. They have milk and eggs in abundance, and the salt that is used for forming a freezing mixture can be utilized on a farm. Every farmer who has a creek, lake or fish pond on his place can obtain a supply of ice from it at the cost of cutting. If, however, ice is put up for commercial purposes within one day's drive from his farm he may find it more economical to buy it, as it costs very little. An ice-house need not be an expensive structure, and if it is only intended to preserve ice enough to supply one family there is no occasion for having it of large size. Blocks of ice that form a cake of ien feet will supply a family for five months. A building to hold ice should be so constructed as to leave a space of from eighteen to twenty-four inches on each side of the ice to be filled with sawdust, grain chaff, or straw chopped very fine. A double wall is not necessary. Experience has shown that it is best to have the sawdust or other material come directly against the cake of ice. As one piece of ice is taken out the material employed for preserving it falls and occupies its place. A tight roof, good drainage, and small doors in the gables that can be opened and shut at pleasure are necessary. There is economy in large ice-houses. They are cheaper to build and to fill. There must be the same thickness of sawdust or other material around a small cake of ice as around a large one. It costs but little more to construct a building that will contain ice enough to supply ten families than one that will supply ice to but one family. Some creamery and cheese factory companies have arranged to supply milk at a low price to all their patrons. A block of ice two feet square will ordinarily supply a family for three or four days. In some places a dozen or more farmers have united in building and filling an ice-house. It is located at some central spot and the farmer living nearest to it has the care of it. The general plan is to have it opened one hour in the morning on alternate days. This gives every farmer an opportunity to get ice and prevente waste. Where this plan has ben pur- earth underneath is softened into mud. one running up the eye. These meet at boiling water), and by simply pushing sued it is always found that considerright angles at the cheek bone and the blankets about in the tub. Press able ice can be sold to persons who are

#### OPENING A MINE. An Operation Which Devours Many Thou-

sands of Dollars.

NO. 48.

Working a gold mine sounds very nice, but very few people are aware of the difficulties and expense attending this operation.

There are plenty of men in this city who have been "bitten" in small mining schemes, and who do not now understand why they were failures. It is a very common thing for some hopeful prospector to stumble across "croppings" that show free gold, and that, from all appearances, could be worked to advantage with the expenditure of a little money.

The first thing the prospector does is to "think up" some capitalist friend whom he thinks would be willing to invest in the enterprise. He then writes a letter something after this fashion:

"I have one of the finest propositions you ever heard of. I have discovered croppings that indicate the presence of a ledge 8 feet wide, and which I am certain will be found permanent.

"The croppings show that the ore will mill at least \$25 per ton. Let us say then that the ore will only yield half this amount.

El per ton. This will leave a net profit of, say, Now the croppings show along the scrface that the ore will hold out, and after the tunnel readily see, yield a profit of \$200,000. "All I need is enough money to run this tun-

nel. I can then haul the ore to a custom mull (there is one about a mile distant), and after that the mine will pay for itself. I only need \$3,00) at the outside, and if you will put up this amount you may have a half interest in the perty

On paper this is a fine proposition." A sure fortune for \$3,000. The capitalist is caught and up goes his \$3,000.

The first thing to be done is to drive a tunnel into the solid rock some 8 feet square and a distance of 200 feet. A double shift of men, say eight, are hired, also a blacksmith to sharpen the tools. men to clear away the ground, etc. This can easily be accomplished for \$50 a day. A house or cabin has to be built, but this will only cost some \$300. Powder, tools, timbers, . lumber and provisions will make the first \$1,000, to use a popular expression, "look awful sick.

For the first few days the work progresses favorably, and the capitalist receives the most encouraging letters from his mining friend. After that the letters are less frequent and not near so encouraging.

The miners have "struck a horse." This is generally some rock about as



mng. Rude, artless and inharmonious as the appeal for pity was, I had never in my life heard any thing so to be the half-articulate expression of steep, as it compels the horse to stand all the grief, the misery, and the dewarding prisons and the mines.

As the party marched slowly along turned to re-enter the post station, I nance in our politics. some and oppressive. -George Kennan, in Century.

LAUGHTER AND WRINKLES. Curious) OBservations Made by a Clever

A Badoa physician has recently been kin Ostudy of wrinkles. Says the down "It is customary to say that wrinkles come from worrying, but the truth is that most of them come from laughing. This is rather paradoxical, I must admit, but I have only been convinced after the most careful investigation. To know how to laugh is just as important as to know how when to de it. If you augh with the sides of your face the the bottom of your tubs, having had skin will work loose in time, and the blankets well beaten to remove all wrinkles will form in exact accord- clinging dust before you get the tubs ance with what kind of laugh you out. Then lay the blanket lightly on have. The man who always wears a over the ammonia and pour upon it a smirk will have a series of semi-cir- sufficient quantity of warm water to cular wrinkles covering his cheeks. "When a gambler who has been ac- a stick or the hand flop the blanket customed to suppressing his feelings about in the solution, pressing all the laughs a deep line forms on each side water that will come out of it against of his nose and runs to the upper cor- the side of the tub without wringing. ner of his mouth. In time this line as you remove to the rinse water. You extends to the chin and assumes the will be amazed to see the dissolved dirt shape of a half moon. A cadaverous coming out through the fibers, as no to have two broadly marked wrinkles, bring it out. Rinse in the same way, in

#### WASHING BLANKETS. The Use of Ammonia More Effective Than

Rubbing With Soap-Suds. Put a pint of household ammonia in cover the blanket entirely. Then with person with a waxlike skin is very apt washing or rubbing with soap-suds will one running up from the jaw and the the same moderately warm water (not OREGON. look as though they formed a knot at through the wringer and hang out to not connected with the enterprise.-

easy to drill through as so much cast steel. A hole six inches deep may be drifled into the rock in about ten hours. and when the giant powder cartridges are put into this hole they shoot out as if from a cannon.

There may be 10 feet of this sort of work, there may be 50; at any rate, before the difficulty has been over come, some \$2,000 or more will have been sunk in the enterprise, and the ground scarcely scratched.

Of course more money will be demanded, and then still more until the capitalist becomes disgusted and quits the thing all together. This is the way it generally works.

Difficulties are not only encountered in running a tunnel or sinking a shaft, such as the caving in of the work, rebellious rock and others too numerous to mention; but it is often discovered after the tunnel has been run the desired length that it should have been run in some other place.

To estimate the actual cost of the opening up of a mine from the "grass roots" would be a very difficult matter. Under the most favorable circumstances, however, unless a pocket or bunch of very rich ore is encountered. from \$60,000 to \$75,000 may be set down as a very close figure to put a mere "prospect" in paying condition.

As much sometimes as \$200,000 are spent in opening up a mine before any "money" is taken out. All this refers merely to those "little" mining propositions or "flyers," as they are called, in which the uninitiated, in the hope of becoming millionaires on a "dollar" investment, come ont in almost every instance at the small end of the horn .-N. Y. Herald.

### Safe Burial of Bowlders.

Having buried many large stones, I affirm that the dangers indurred is very slight if the work is attempted in the right manner. Do not dig under it at all. Keep the excavation about six inches from the nearest side of the stone. Make it long enough, wide enough and deep enough to contain the stone with room to spare. When the nole is dug, then with long-handled tools carefully remove the six-inch shell of earth as low as you can reach easily without taking any risk of being crushed. A plank laid along the further edge of the hole may give you some advantage in digging. Next dig a narrow trench along the opposite side of the stone from the excavation. Make this trench close to the stone and partly under it. Now pour water into the trench, and keep on pouring until the when the stone can usually be slid without much trouble into the hole. A lever can be used to give it a start. -Farm Life.