

Our Common Schools.

BY C. R. BARROW.

EDITOR HERALD: Quite a number of persons have asked me why I did not continue my articles on our common schools. The simple facts are that I have been too busy. It was my original intention to write an article on each of the common school branches, and I will now try and complete the work. I will first however analyze the article of my friend Hacker, in your last week's issue. I have just read his article with a great deal of interest, and in many points his position is certainly commendable. In some few points however, in my humble opinion our learned friend is in error. In the first place, I do not agree that he is an "old foggy", nor that I am one. What is an "old foggy"? An "old foggy" is one who refuses to accept and use a new, improved and better thing, method or idea when it is presented to him, but instead, obstinately sticks to his old way in the face of, and in spite of the improved and better way presented. But in this connection we must remember that it is not every new thing offered, that is an improvement, not by a long shot. Many of them are mere worthless innovations.

And I heartily agree with my friend Hacker, and believe his statement when he says that "the course in the public schools of New England in his day and generation was better than what is adopted in Oregon", for we all know as matter of history what was done there by such of our noble forefathers who were themselves both educated and educators. Look at the grand colleges they organized, standing to-day like great sentinel bullworks lighting up the pathway of science, literature, and philosophy. And while you think of this remember another fact, that they did not found these colleges on "Fads and Fancies." But instead, they founded them upon the principles of science that had been tried and tested since the ancient days of the scientific Arabs, Egyptians, Greeks and Romans, those illustrious fathers of Mathematics, Philosophy, History and Literature. If any one does not believe this, let him hunt up these ancient principles of Mathematics, Philosophy, History, and Literature.

And the same thing that my friend Hacker claims for New England, is equally true of my native state of Ohio. Why, for the last twenty years it has been a standing comment among all our leading papers, that when the government wanted a man to fill some prominent position they went to Ohio to get him. And Ohio has become a Mecca of Presidents as well as Virginia. Why is this? Is it because geographical or climatic conditions are more productive of brains in Ohio than in the other states? No. Is it because the boys and girls of Ohio naturally have any more brains than those of Oregon or any other state? No, not by any means. Then what is it? For the fact remains that the men of Ohio have led in the National councils of both peace and war for forty years.

Where did General Grant hail from? From the old white-oak bark tan yard at Georgetown, Ohio. Where were the two Shermans, Ewing, Allen, Thurman the old Roman, Chase, Harrison, Hayes, Garfield, McKinley, and Grovernor all from? From Ohio. And I might name many others. It was an Ohio man who went to England and taught them how to build those massive modern buildings. And Ohio is still in the lead. What does Editor Dodge say of Senator Foraker in last week's Sentinel, where he is writing about the Brownville affair? He says, "The general opinion prevails that Foraker will take care of the situation ably, as he is considered by many to be the most brainy, and capable man in the senate."

I am acquainted with Senator Foraker, his father's farm lay right across the creek from my father's farm, and Benny, as his father called him, attended the Hillsboro Academy with my older half-brothers. So the question as above stated is, why has Ohio obtained, and how has she maintained such a lead among the states? The answer is, because she has maintained one of the best, most thorough, and complete Common School systems in

the United States. As my friend Hacker well says, it was, "Not that the pupils learned more, but they learned fewer things better." And the founders of our Ohio schools held that, "It was better to be well grounded in essential branches for a foundation to scholarship." Hence special attention was given to a thorough knowledge of all the common branches. As a result of their wisdom, the government census of 1890 showed that Ohio had maintained for years more common schools than any other state in the Union and of a better grade.

The pupils were thoroughly grounded in the basic principles of the common branches, and as my friend says, this work was "continued during the whole common school course." Hence the student obtained a thorough knowledge of the branches he studied, instead of a mere superficial idea, as is the case under the more modern school system of fads and fancies.

And in all my experience both as a student and a teacher, I have observed that the boy or the girl who had a complete and thorough knowledge of the common branches, had but little trouble in mastering the higher and more difficult branches. While the fellow who had only a smattering and imperfect knowledge of the common branches was continually floundering around in his classes and recitations like a ship at sea without chart, compass, or rudder. The whole business world is clamoring today and have been for the last ten years, for young men who are Masters of the subjects they profess, and not mere skimmers. Our college journals, our educational monthlies, and the whole public press have been full of this subject for several years.

My theory in this whole matter, as I stated in one of my previous articles, is that there is too much—entirely too much—superficial skimming of the surface, and not enough getting down to solid business, not enough digging down into the "meat in the cocoa-nut." The time of the child is frittered away in teaching him something about the drunkard Poe, the libertine Byron, or some other celebrity. Putting on literary polish, as they call it, instead of teaching the child the basic principles of a good, substantial common school education. The child comes home and chatters glibly about Chaucer, Cowper, Southey, Campbell, Wordsworth, and an hundred others, but he could not tell you what seven and a half pounds of meat cost at twelve and a half cents a pound to save his life. Now I do not mean that the pupil should never learn about these poets and other celebrities, for I believe in it, and I love poetry, but I believe there are other more important things the child should learn first. And this thing of putting Literary Polish on an Ignoramus, is not my idea of a finished education. Its putting the cart before the horse. And with these views my friend Hacker seems to agree. If you wanted to build a fine colonnade you would not get a lot of logs rotten at the core and give them a beautiful outside polish.

I remember one of these lovely, ethereal, divine creatures who had passed the Board of Education and bumped her head against the Board of Ignorance. She went away to one of our prominent Boarding schools on the Vassar plan. When she returned she stepped into one of our military stores to buy a new hat and my sister happened to be present. She was particularly struck with a beautiful ostrich feather, and she turned to my sister and said, "O! isn't it lovely. Its a perfect dream! Its just too sweet for anything! but don't you know, I just really don't feel like investigating ten dollars in a feather.

Shades of Cicero! And poor old Noah Webster must have turned in his coffin! Now this girl could sit down and rattle off to you for an hour about the sweet dream of Mrs. Hemans, the lovely poems of Longfellow, the ecstatic thrill of Campbell's pleasures of Hope and his Gertrude of Wyoming, the dear, darling Edgar Allen Poe, and the divine Chancer, but her common school education had been sadly neglected, and she would not have known an Algebraic theorem from a Medical prescription.

And "The woods is full of 'em", and how Mr. Editor I have noted only a little of the first of my friend Hacker's article but will continue the analysis of it in your next issue.

Bancroft items.
The first month of the new year brought us two floods sufficient to carry out logs.

Mr. Jewett of Coquille is visiting his son Jason and his daughter Mrs. Freidenburg.

James Leep had a crew of hands busy Wednesday pushing in the logs left from last rise.

Ray Gilkey has been stopping with Mr. Evernden for a few days while F. J. Fish and wife are absent Frank being employed in hauling in logs which lodged during the last rise.

Miss Ella Rice of the upper creek is visiting at Bandon lately.

Mrs. Julia Leep has not been so well lately but hopes to keep up and hold all she has gained in strength since she came to the ranch.

C. D. Price is slashing between showers, and hopes to justify all the good things he has said about the goats as brush killers.

James Anderson formerly of Coquille is busy clearing and fencing ground on his farm near Ole Samuelson's place.

All winter goods at O. Wilson & Co's will be sold out at cost during the balance of this month.

Mr. and Mrs. George McAdams visited Mrs. McAdams' parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Miller, of Fishtrap last Saturday and Sunday.

Will Have a New Mill.
Construction work will probably commence on the North Bend Lumber Co., mill next week. There are about 140 piles driven and 100 more will probably be placed. The mill room will cover 200 x 200 feet of ground space.

It will handle the local trade and it is thought will thus enable the other Simpson mill to take care of the outside demand. A large portion of the wharf 80 x 240 feet, will be used for local lumber.—Times.

Weather Report.
The following weather report was furnished us by J. W. Hall, of near Myrtle Point.

	Rain	Frost	Snow	Thunder
Jan. 9	2	1	0	0
Feb. 12	3	0	5	0
Mar. 13	5	2	0	0
Apr. 6	5	0	0	0
May. 11	0	0	0	0
June 11	0	0	0	0
July 0	0	0	0	0
Aug. 1	0	0	0	0
Sept. 5	0	0	0	0
Oct. 7	2	0	0	0
Nov. 11	5	0	2	0
Dec. 14	5	1	3	0
Total 100	27	4	10	0

Report of the condition of THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

At Coquille, in the State of Oregon, at the close of business, Nov. 26, 1907.

ASSETS	
Loans and discounts	\$41,349.48
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured	894.34
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation	6,350.00
Premiums on U. S. Bonds	367.18
Bonds, securities, etc.	39,757.39
Banking house, furniture and fixtures	9,618.16
Due from State Banks and Bankers	11,292.17
Due from approved reserve agents	131,040.68
Checks and other cash items, fractional paper currency, nickels, and cents	1,332.85
Legal money reserve in bank, viz: Specie	36,502.96
Legal-tender notes	2015.00
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer (5 per cent circulation)	312.50
Total	230,830.09

LIABILITIES	
Capital stock paid in	\$25,000.00
Surplus fund	5,000.00
Undivided profits, less expense and taxes paid	3,599.22
National Bank notes outstanding	182,000.00
Individual deposits subject to check	309,708.86
Demand certificates of deposit	41,572.01
Total	\$230,830.09

State of Oregon, County of Coos, I, L. H. Hazard, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. L. H. HAZARD, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31st day of January, 1907. O. C. SANFORD, Notary Public.

The most precious gift is the eye sight. Do not trifle with it.

It costs you nothing to see M. G. Pohl, Registered Optician Office in W. H. Schroeder's Jewelry Store, first

Sweet, Sour and Dill pickles at Robinson's.

Go to Drane's for "Demont's Best" flour.

Ladies shopping bags a new line at Mrs. Nosler's.

A consignment of pump guns just in at T. H. Mehl & Co's.

Don't forget Mrs. Nosler's closing out sale. Goods are going cheap.

The Home Realty Co., has the buyers. List your property with them.

W. P. Fuller's prepared paints, oils and varnishes at J. A. Lamb & Co's.

The members of the M. E. Church wish to tender their thanks to all those who gave their influence and assistance in the oyster supper Friday night of last week.

The cash customer has the advantage at T. H. Mehl & Co's. They are now giving 5 per cent off of the regular prices to all who pay cash on the spot.

Teachers Examination.
Notice is hereby given that the regular examination of applicants for state and county papers will be held in Coquille, beginning Wednesday, February 13th, at 9 o'clock a. m. and continuing until Friday, February 15th, at 4 o'clock p. m., 1907.

Program: For county papers, Writing, history, spelling, reading, written arithmetic, teaching, grammar, physiology, geography, mental arithmetic, school law, civil government.

Dated this 14th day of January, 1907. W. H. BUNCH, County Supt.

Gum Boots, Rubbers, Macintoshes and rain coats at J. W. Leneve's. For Sale—Good fresh milch cow, 5 years, old. Inquire of A. M. Jones Coquille.

ABSTRACTS ABSTRACTS ABSTRACTS ABSTRACTS

TITLE GUARANTEE AND ABSTRACT COMPANY
Marshfield and Coquille, Oregon.
We have completed a thorough, up-to-date Abstract Plant.

We are now ready to furnish correct ABSTRACTS at short notice, and orders will receive careful and prompt attention.

Marshfield office adjoins Flanagan & Bennett Bank Coquille " " Coquille Post Office. MARSHFIELD PHONE, 143. COQUILLE PHONE, 191.

Phone at our expense when ordering ABSTRACTS. TITLE GUARANTEE & ABSTRACT CO., J. S. Barton, Abstractor. Henry Sengstacken, Manager.

C. M. & M. CO.
Manufacturers all kinds of Lumber, Mouldings, etc.

General Merchandise, Hats, Caps, Clothing, Boots and Shoes, Flour and Feed.

GENTS' FURNISHINGS.
Fancy and Staple Groceries
Coquille Mill and Mercantile Co

Z. C. Strang, President. C. R. Barrow, Secretary.

Home Realty Co.
Bargains in Real Estate.

142. 100 acres, 50 acres slashed, good house, barn, orchard. Only half mile from school.

149. 340 acres—fine dairy ranch—fine orchard, good house and barn. Is well watered, and near school.

153. 280 acres, 35 acres bottom; good house and barn, water iped into both, close to school.

157. 120 acres, 30 acres bottom, 90 acres slashed and seeded, good orchard, nice house, two good barns, close to town and school.

161. 100 acres, 35 acres bottom, balance good hill pasture, good orchard, good house and barn.

55. 26 acres, well improved, house, barn, orchard. School and postoffice convenient.

61. 40 acres, all good bottom, part in cultivation, rest slashed; near school and postoffice.

63. 60 acres, all good land, good house and barn, nice orchard; near school and postoffice.

57. 80 acres, well improved, good house, barn, orchard; well watered, excellent neighborhood, near school.

68. 66 acres, 50 acres bottom, 48 acres cleared, two good orchards, good house and barn, well located, near school—a bargain.

73. 70 acres, 28 acres bottom, balance good hill pasture, good house and barn, good orchard; close to school.

87. 120 acres, 25 acres bottom, 40 acres second bottom, 50 acres good bench land, nice orchard, two houses and two barns.

93. 97 acres, 30 acres bottom, balance good pasture land, 50 acres seeded, 14 acres fine bench land, orchard, good house and barn, close to school.

109. 25 acres well improve, good orchard, 22 acres cleared, good house and barn, well improved and well located.

115. 17 acres, 7 acres bottom, all nice land, good house and barn, land well located—a bargain.

125. 160 acres, good stock ranch, also 40 acres young timber.

165. 880 acre stock ranch, two houses, and four barns. This is a good ranch. Purchaser may buy the stock with the ranch.

70. 47 acres, 41 acres in cultivation, 35 acres fine bottom, 12 acres first-class bench land, good house and barn, nice orchard, near school.

CITY PROPERTY.
101. Good house and barn with over an acre of ground; a bargain.
105. Two nice lots, good barn on same.
117. A nice tract of land, well located, part bottom, adjoining Coquille.
120. Good house and barn, also 2 acres of ground if desired.
119. 4 acres or more of ground, good house and barn, well located.
129. Over 1 acre of land with good house and barn.
131. Good house, 2 nice lots, well located.

147. Two acres good land with good house and barn.
351. House and four nice lots, a bargain.
169. Nice new house with two good lots.
195. Four choice lots well located.
209. Good house and two lots, one splendid bottom lot for garden close in.
206. Nice house and lot, good improvements.

Timber Land Act, June 3, 1878. NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION. United States Land Office, Roseburg, Ore., Nov. 28, 1906.

Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California, Oregon, Nevada, and Washington Territory," as extended to all the Public Land States by act of August 4, 1892, George W. King, of Montague, county of Siskiyou, State of California, has this day filed in this office his sworn statement No. 6996, for the purchase of Lots 4 and 5 of Section No. 6 in Township No. 28 S, Range No. 11 W., and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before the County Clerk and Clerk of County Court, Coos County, at his office in Coquille, Oregon, on Thursday, the 11th day of April, 1907.

He names as witnesses: J. W. Mast, of Lee, Ore.; R. O. Hatcher, of Myrtle Point, Ore.; E. D. Myers and William H. Myers, of Lee, Oregon.

Any and all persons claiming adversely the above-described lands are requested to file their claims in this office on or before said 11th day of April, 1907. BENJAMIN L. EDDY, Register.

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He names as witnesses: Lee Mast and William Myers, of McKinley, Coos County, Oregon; Arthur Brown and Henry Hervey, of Lee, Coos County, Oregon.

Ray Gilkey who has been up at Bancroft for some weeks, is down visiting with the folks at home.

NOVELTY CUTLERY CO.
Manufacturers
KNIVES AND SCISSORS

You can have your name and address or any picture or Lodge emblem you wish on any knife you purchase. Call on C. W. GILLMAN Local Agent.

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT. Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has this day filed in the County Court for Coos County, Oregon, his final account in the matter of the administration of the estate of R. H. Charlton, deceased, and that said Court has set Tuesday, the 12th day of March, 1907, as the day for hearing objections to said final account and the settlement of said estate.

Dated this 30th day of January, 1907. JAMES FINCH, Administrator of the Estate of R. H. Charlton, deceased.

Opportunity for a short time! 21 acre ranch 30 acres bottom 40 acre vacant timber adjoining, well situated. \$1100. Home Realty Co.

For Sale—About four dozen thoroughbred Buff Leghorn hens. Mrs. S. L. Lafferty, Norway, Or.

Piling Wanted
20,000 Lineal ft. of Fir piling to be cut in February or March. Can be delivered later

For particulars, apply to Southern Oregon Company Empire City, Oregon.

Confidence in the Jeweler
When you buy Jewelry you need to have confidence that you are not being sold an inferior article at the price charged for first-class goods. We make a rule to always represent goods as they really are, and charge a price as low as consistent you need have no fear but that you are obtaining full value for your money when you purchase here. We are now showing a larger and better assortment than ever.

All kinds of Repair work neatly and quickly done.
E. C. BARKER & CO.

NOTICE
I have at my place on Hall's creek 4 miles above Arago, 1 team, 2 cows, 3 calves and some carpenter tools that must be sold soon. Any one needing any of these things should call and see me. B. B. PAUL

Kerr has a full and complete stock of groceries and is looking every day for the best selection of fall and winter clothing ever.

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Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California, Oregon, Nevada, and Washington Territory," as extended to all the Public Land States by act of August 4, 1892, George W. King, of Montague, county of Siskiyou, State of California, has this day filed in this office his sworn statement No. 6996, for the purchase of Lots 4 and 5 of Section No. 6 in Township No. 28 S, Range No. 11 W., and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before the County Clerk and Clerk of County Court, Coos County, at his office in Coquille, Oregon, on Thursday, the 11th day of April, 1907.

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He names as witnesses: Lee Mast and William Myers, of McKinley, Coos County, Oregon; Arthur Brown and Henry Hervey, of Lee, Coos County, Oregon.

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NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION. Department of the Interior, Land Office at Roseburg, Oregon, Dec. 4th, 1906.

Notice is hereby given that Robert A. Easton, of Siskiyou, Oregon, has filed notice of his intention to make final five-year proof in support of his claim, viz: Homestead Entry No. 10392, made Jan. 2, 1901, for the NE 1/4 SW 1/4, SW 1/4 NE 1/4, SE 1/4 NW 1/4, Section 6, Township 28 S, Range 10 W, and that said proof will be made before County Clerk and Clerk of County Court of Coos County, Oregon, at his office at Coquille, Oregon, on April 15th, 1907.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of the land, viz: Walter M. Laird, James D. Laird and James Benham, of Siskiyou, Oregon; and Jacob O. Stemmler, of Doris, Oregon.

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