

NEWBERG GRAPHIC SUPPLEMENT.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1892.

Open the Ditches.

The reason for letting ponds of water stand along each side of our streets is a question that is often asked and one that we are unable to answer. If the committee on streets can answer it we would be glad if they would solve the question for the benefit of our readers. The propriety of tiling the streets is being discussed lately, a scheme which if carried out all over town would no doubt be a great benefit, but if every street and alley in town was well underdrained the necessity for good open ditches to carry off the surface water as it falls would still exist, and we see no reason why this improvement should be delayed longer. All the streets that have been graded have fairly good ditches at the sides if they were kept cleaned out and culverts put in at the crossings, but as it now is there are places that have been left lower than others when grading was done, and there the water stands to soak the roads full and make mud holes, as well as to breed malaria. An expenditure of \$40 at the beginning of the rainy season, in keeping a man busy with spade and shovel putting the side ditches in proper shape, would have been money well spent. We have full faith in tile draining, but for side draining of streets in a town where the soil packs hard we have very little faith in it. The drain would be very convenient for property owners who desire to drain their lots with tile and want an outlet, but for carrying off the surface water along the streets we have but little faith in it. In our opinion the same amount of money spent in cutting good open ditches and keeping them well cleaned each fall as the rains set in would bring much more satisfactory returns. The tile put in to carry the water from the down spouts at the bank building to the canyon, and that in front of Hoskins' brick amount to simply nothing as far as surface drainage is concerned.

In Memoriam of James W. Thomas.

The following Resolutions of Respect on the death of James W. Thomas were adopted at the meeting of Kilpatrick Camp, No. 7, Sons of Veterans, on Saturday Dec. 26.

Whereas: It has pleased the allwise Providence to remove suddenly from our midst our brother and First Sargeant, James W. Thomas.

Whereas: That in this bereavement we have lost one endeared to us by long association, in which we came to know him as a trusty friend, a faithful brother and an energetic worker in the Order, therefore be it

Resolved: That whilst we bow with humble submission to the will of Him who doeth all things well, we cannot refrain from expressing our deep sorrow at the sudden departure from among us of one who always evinced a zeal for the promotion of the objects of the order of Sons of Veterans and for the advancement of all that was good, pure and noble.

Resolved: That we will ever cherish with fond remembrance his efficient work in the offices which he held, his untiring devotion to his parents, his gentlemanly bearing toward all with whom he came in contact, and his willingness to perform any duty which was assigned to him.

Resolved: That his death unites us in grief which can be but faintly outlined in words, and that we extend to his wife, parents, brother, sisters and relatives our heartfelt sympathy in their great loss.

Resolved: That these resolutions be entered on the minutes of the Kilpatrick Camp, No. 7, and be published in the *National Reveille*, *Hillboro Independent*, and the local papers, and that a copy of them be presented to the bereaved family. And further be it

Resolved: That the Camp Charter be draped in mourning for a period of thirty days.

C. F. BUTLER,
ELMER E. WASHBURN, Captain,
Division Correspondent.

The holidays are now about over and bills will ere long be presented for payment of many presents that would better have been left in the stores. The American people have gone wild in the matter of making presents, many people spending money for expensive gifts that ought to go for the necessaries of life. The *Pacific Rural Press* says on this subject:

"It is believed that the habit of making gifts at this season of the year is a beneficent feeling born of the manger and the cross. It was a flower of early Christmas faith. Then the poor were fed, the

ragged clothed. Even messengers were sent out to scour the by-ways, lanes and hedges, and bring in the poor, lame, halt and blind, and give them the best of the land. It was not long, however, before the circle of Christmas benefactions was greatly enlarged, and men began to make complimentary gifts to their wives and children, relatives and friends. The gift came from the heart, and was put away as a fragrant place-keeper in the book of memory. The woman who embroidered the first pair of slippers for the dear pastor, or knit purses, mittens or comforters for her husband and big boys, had no thought of gaining anything beyond the pleasure of the deed. That was the golden age of giving, but it has nearly passed away. The age of barter and exchange has come in, and there is a talk now of assigning it to our text books on domestic economy.

On the approach of Christmas a levy is made on the pocket book of every man and woman in the country, and though by a fiction of the imagination is regarded as voluntary, it is really as inexorable as the assessments levied on candidates during the political campaign. The steady increase in the value of Christmas gifts is a fact full of alarming significance. A man with a big family is often compelled to skate near the ragged edge, and it is even whispered that a prudent young man will not marry a girl who has an excess of sisters, for fear he may be compelled to use up the best part of his salary purchasing gifts."

