

**MASON & LONDON.**

**GENERAL MERCHANDISE,**  
Burns, Harney County, Oregon.

NOTICE TO PUBLIC:—Commencing December 15th, we will inaugurate our Annual Clearance Sales for the purpose of reducing our large stock prior to taking count of stock for the New Year.

We allow a CASH DISCOUNT OF 15 PER CENT upon all purchases made during the time of our sale, with the exception of groceries.

Remember we carry the largest line of Boots and Shoes, Rubber Goods, Hats and Caps, Dry Goods, Ladies and Gents' Furnishing Goods and Hosiery. We carry the stock that makes the prices and can not be undersold by any legitimate competition.

**MASON & LONDON.**

### That Christmas Tree.

Mr. Editor: In your issue of last week you refer to the failure to make the Christmas tree what it should have been, but fail to state any facts, pro or con, concerning the cause of the failure. Will you allow me to state some facts relative to it, without reference to any one personally, and without attempt to excuse or accuse any one?

Prior to the holidays a public meeting was called to arrange for the occasion. At this meeting, committees were appointed to attend to the various duties, among them being a "general committee" whose duty was defined to superintend the whole thing and see that any part that should be neglected by any committee would be otherwise provided for.

The finance committee, according to the report of the chairman received about \$70 in cash, besides some donation of candy, nuts, etc.

The committee to procure a list of the names of all the children did their work.

The purchasing committee bought candy and nuts and material to make sacks, and expected later to get toys or small articles for the children with the rest of the money; but other parties, without consulting this committee, bought larger quantities of candy and nuts, so that the sum of money was so diminished that they could not procure the anticipated toys etc.

The program committee prepared a nice program, a part of which was rendered, and the rest omitted on account of the confusion.

The committee to make and fill sacks, did their work, but as the size was increased above what was originally intended, there was still a shortage of candy and nuts to fill them, hence a part of them were never filled.

The general committee procured the public school building as a place for the tree. Three nice trees were brought in and placed at the school house door; seats were engaged from the church, lamps for lighting the room were to be secured at the church or court house and such other general arrangements as were necessary were provided for.

The committee to place the tree in place ready to be decorated, for some reason failed to do so.

The decorating committee, who were to ornament the tree, place on presents and otherwise arrange matters, for some unknown reason also failed to meet and do the work on the day appointed.

At noon Friday the general committee, seeing it was all left on their hands, and the tree was to be that night, met and decided that it was impossible at that late hour, with the small amount of help at hand and the large amount of work to be done, for them to carry out the original plan. At this juncture one member of the committee refused to co-operate with the committee, another was called away on official business; thus leaving the entire matter in the hands of two of the general and two of the decorating committees, who expressed their willingness to help. It was evident that one thing only could be done under the circumstances, i. e.: Take one of the trees, only go to the church where seats and lights were, gather up the presents that had been left at the stores, and use the tree as a medium of distributing them. The candy nuts were given out to the children as best it could be done under the circumstances.

The money expended in all was about \$45 leaving something like \$25 in the hands of the chairman of finance committee, who was instructed by general committee to deposit the same in bank subject to the use of the committee for the same purpose next Christmas.

CHAIRMAN GEN. COMMITTEE.

### STARR FAVORS UNION.

Discussing the situation as it now presents itself, F. A. E. Starr, chairman of the state democratic central committee, said:

"From letters I have received from democrats in all parts of the state, I find a sentiment largely in favor of the union movement of all the forces that united during the campaign of 1896. In fact, this sentiment is so prevalent that I do not believe there is a single county in the state that will not send a delegation to our state convention pledged to support a union of forces."

"Whatever talk is being made about running a straight democratic ticket comes from those not in favor of harmonious action with those who are united on the silver proposition. There is very little of that at the present time. I do not believe there will be any element in the democratic party that will oppose the proposed union of forces. We will have a convention composed of representative men whose effort will be to see that a ticket made up from prominent men, regardless of past party affiliations, is nominated. A platform will also be adopted upon which all parties in the state favoring free silver, can harmonize. I have never known in the history of politics in this state such a harmony of sentiment as now prevails as to adopting a platform and nominating a ticket favoring the silver plank of the Chicago platform, which all can support. I have numerous letters from leading populists throughout the state, who are impressed with the same idea, and I believe that the people will see that at the coming primaries no one will be elected who does not favor a union of forces."

"So far as the movement, headed by Sylvester Penney, is concerned I do not know of its existence, or what Penney may do. I do believe that he and his followers are too good citizens to attempt to force measures on the party not to its best interests, and which would not be favored by a majority of the voters in the state. I think the democrats of Multnomah county will fall in line with those in the rest of the state for a union of forces which means victory at the polls."

### McKinley in 1890.

"During all of this year at the head of the government he (Mr. Cleveland) was dishonoring one of our precious metals, one of our great products, discrediting the price of silver and enhancing the price of gold. He endeavored, even before his inauguration to office, to stop the coining of silver dollars, and afterwards and to the end of his administration persistently used his power to that end. He was determined to contract the circulating medium and demote one of the coins of commerce, limit the volume of money among the people, make money scarce, and therefore dear. He would have increased the value of money and diminished the value of everything else—money the master, everything else its servant."

Speech of William McKinley in 1890.

Indignation continues intense in Spain over the execution by the Cuban insurgents of Colonel Ruiz, though the latter perished according to the terms of a somewhat ruthless military law. The recent burning by Spaniards of four huts filled with women and children in Pinar del Rio province does not appear, however, to have caused any great excitement at Spain's capital.

The Madrid Imparcial urges that the Spanish navy be strengthened as a hint to the United States. It is very unkind of the Imparcial to try to frighten us to death—just after the holidays, too.

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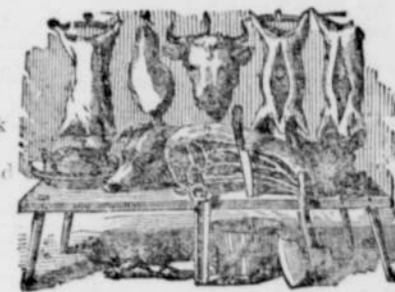
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### OFFICIAL DIRECTORY

WATER-ORCOK:  
Mayor: S. W. McBride.  
Clerk: Theo. Tongue.  
Assessor: W. E. Bille.  
Attorney General: C. M. Williams.  
Recorder: Wm. F. Lord.  
Secretary of State: M. R. Kincaid.  
Treasurer: J. P. Hill.  
Land Commissioner: G. M. Lewis.  
Public Administrator: W. R. Lewis.  
Judge: E. S. Reed.  
County Judge: C. W. Hartman.  
F. A. Moore.

NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT:  
District Judge: M. D. Clifton.  
County Attorney: C. W. Parrish.  
Justice: Representative: G. L. Patterson.  
Justice: Representative: A. W. Gowan.

COURT—HARNEY:  
County Judge: C. P. Rutherford.  
Clerk: H. Kelley.  
Recorder: T. C. Welton.  
Assessor: T. A. McKinnon.  
Treasurer: A. J. McKinnon.  
Land Commissioner: W. S. Wilson.  
Public Administrator: W. C. Byrd.  
County Attorney: I. M. Davis.  
Justice: Representative: A. S. Marks.  
Justice: Representative: Geo. Hasty.

HARNEY E. S. LAND OFFICE:  
Register: Thomas Jones.  
Recorder: A. A. Cowling.

### SOCIETIES.

BYLA BROTHERHOOD Degree No. 44  
Meets every 1st and 3rd Wednesday.  
Wm. Lewis Sec. J. P. Zeigler, Treas. Geo. W. W.

A. O. U. W. Burns Lodge, No. 7.  
Meets every 2d and 4th Thursdays.  
H. W. Harton, M. W. J. W. Beyer, Sec.

HARNEY LODGE, NO. 7, I. O. O. F.  
Meets at Odd Fellows Hall, every Saturday 7:30 p.m.  
M. L. Lewis, M. W. J. P. Zeigler, Sec.

### C. A. SWEET,

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,

Burns, Oregon.

### MAURICE FITZGERALD

REAL ESTATE AGENT.

NOTARY PUBLIC.

BURNS OREGON

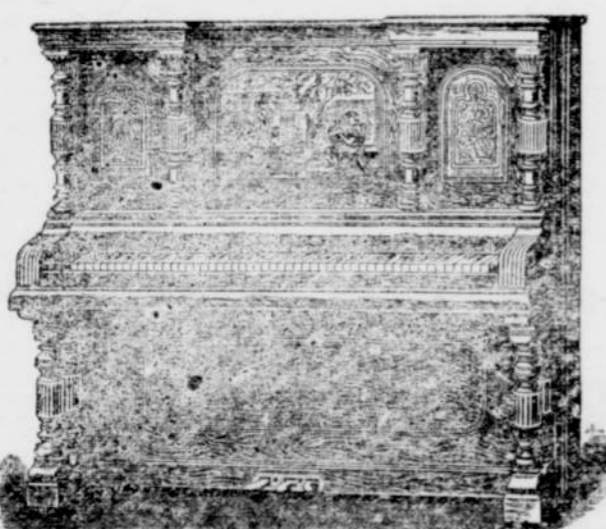
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