

OREGON NEWS NOTES.

Portland's Bonded Indebtedness \$4,000,000.

WILD GEESSE BY THE THOUSAND

Extensive Business Done at Eugene Postoffice for the Week Ending December 31.

Portland's bonded indebtedness is \$4,957,337 70. Delinquent taxes for the past five years about \$425,000.

There were 16 new convicts added to the penitentiary during the month of November and 13 regularly discharged.

Wild geese by the thousands are feeding in the stubble fields of Sherman county now, mostly in and about Hay canyon.

The Viola Dramatic Club, of Arlington, gave its first performance Wednesday night, presenting "Among the Breakers."

A meeting will be held in Toledo, Lincoln county, next Saturday, when those owning islands on the Clalls slough, in Lincoln county, will consider the feasibility of ditching the slough.

Prosperity comes quickest to the man whose liver is in good condition. Dr. Williams' Little Early Risers are famous in the pills for constipation, biliousness, indigestion, and all stomach and liver troubles.—W. E. Kremer.

Two boys that were raised on the Oregon Agricultural College farm were killed the other day and dressed 1340 pounds. One, a pure Berkshire, weighed 790. The other one was a cross-bred Berkshire and Poland-China, weighing 390.

A Pendleton boy found \$10 in a sack wishing to find the owner asked the first man he saw. It happened to be a tramp. Yes, he had lost it. He took the money and that was the last seen of him.

The Oregon State Foultry Association has doubled in membership during the past six months, there being about 15 from Lyon and 29 from Marion counties with a lesser number from the other sections. The interest is constantly increasing.

Four young men of Pendleton went out to Foster in Umatilla county, after jackrabbits. They fired 700 shotgun cartridges and brought back 203 rabbits which were shipped to Portland from Echo. The hunters did not pick up any of their victims that fell beyond the line of march.

An enterprise is on foot in Umatilla county relating to melon culture at the D. W. Bailey ranch near Umatilla, covered by the Bailey Irrigation Company's water ditches. A Mr. Broadus, a California melon grower, will superintend operations at the Bailey ranch, where it is the intention to plant 400 acres to melons.

For the week ending December 31 last, the Eugene postoffice issued 199 domestic and 1 foreign orders to the amount of a little over \$1000. During the same time, the office paid 239 domestic and 3 foreign orders to the amount of \$1939.

In order to make payment the Eugene postmaster drew on the New York office the balance being against him.

Miss Daisy Dilard of Eugene, about 19 years of age, was shot in the arm last week. She was alone at home, her mother having gone down town. She was sitting near the window, evidently with murderous intent. The bullet took effect in Miss Dilard's left forearm, the wound not being serious. The officers have a clue to the would-be murderer, but no arrests have yet been made. There is a general opinion that he was a rejected suitor.

A William Toner of Corvallis, is testing the merits of a dark gray granite ledge which he located near Summit some time ago. John Scrouff has just finished polishing a piece of stone from that quarry and it takes a handsome polish. The product of this ledge very much resembles the Quincy granite, which is sold at the rate of 67 per cubic foot. Sufficient tests of the summit ledge have been made to enable the owner to conclude that it is first-class for building, curbing, and for all the ordinary uses for which granite is utilized.

Mrs. Stark, Pleasant Ridge, O., says: "After two doctors gave up my boy, he died, I saved him from cramp by using One Minute Cough Cure. It is the quickest and most certain remedy for coughs, colds and all throat and lung troubles.—W. F. Kremer."

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NEWS OF THE WORLD

Venezuela no Reciprocity Treaty With Us.

COLD DID DAMAGE IN FLORIDA

Outlook for the Ratification of the Hawaiian Treaty Considered Good.

The wheat crop in the northern district of West Australia is estimated to be between 14 and 15 bushels per acre.

The czar and zarina will receive their friends at the Paris exposition of 1900 in their own pavilion which will cost 250,000.

Mayor Fawcett of Tacoma, has sworn out a warrant for the arrest of ex-Clerk Shane, of the municipal court, who left that city last week. He is supposed to have gone to Portland or San Francisco. His accounts are \$700 short. His trouble is attributed to fast living.

Governor Bushnell is now announced to be out of the race for either the long or short senatorial term. The intense feeling over Ohio has brightened the friends of the governor, and they are unwilling that he should take the chances to test his popularity before the legislature.

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It is to be regretted that it cannot be regarded as a triumph of justice. The best that can be said for it is that justice has not been broken down. The penalty should have been paid promptly for the crime of the state of California to punish this man for the murder of two innocent girls. It has presented the law as the sports of attorneys. It has shown the courts so tangled in their own technicalities that they were almost unable to move. It has spread almost a contempt for the proceedings of their tribunals. And it has retarded the orderly process of law to an absurdity.

Blanche Lamont was killed on April 2, 1895, and Minnie Williams was killed on April 12 of the same month. Theodore Durrant was arrested for both crimes on the 14th. Yet it has taken the law from that day to bring him to the gallows.

The story of the delays has been almost altogether one of technicalities in the courts. The evidence of the crimes was collected easily and promptly. Prosecution and defense had all their testimony in hand at an early day. Through technicalities the trial was delayed until more than three months had elapsed from the crimes. Through technicalities the selection of the jury took seven weeks. Through technicalities the trial of the case was drawn over three months. After conviction the technicalities of appeal consumed two years and two months. The details of the legal fight are familiar to the reader. They have not illustrated the dignity of the law. They have made law a jest more fit for comic opera than for the serious business of giving justice.

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The case ought to lead to a revision of the criminal procedure of the State. When a man like Durrant, with little money, with no lawyers' attentions, below the ordinary, without friends or influence, can make sport of justice for years in this fashion, it is a warning that our system of justice is near to wreck. We can hope little from the judges in the way of reform, though the most should appeal strongly to them. But the Legislature should wipe out the whole list of technicalities that have grown up through the last half century, and let the courts take a fresh start. If the Legislature does its duty in the matter as the result of the scandal in the Durrant case, the criminal of the century will have served one use. If society is to be protected against the murderer, there must be a system of law under which the murderers are promptly punished.—Examiner.

Everybody Says So.

Carmichael's Compound, the most wonderful medical discovery of the age, is a safe and refreshing to the system, and a powerful purgative, liver and bowels, cleansing the system, removing all impurities, restoring the system, and curing all ailments of the system.—W. F. Kremer.

The Nicaragua canal convention will be held in Kansas City, January 17, 1898. A communication has been received by Governor Rogers from E. M. Williams, secretary of the convention, announcing that nearly all of the states have responded by appointing delegates, and it is believed that it will be the largest convention ever held in this country. The secretary urges the appointment of delegates from Washington. The governor announces that he is ready to appoint any representative citizen of this state who is willing to go and bear his own expenses.

The week of improvement of the upper river between Eugene and Harrisburg has been busy. For the past week a crew of men has been at work cutting down all overhanging trees from the banks. The steam pile-driver attached to the snag boat commenced work on the Sladden rapid shutting up the south channel and forcing the water down the center channel. The rock contract was let to E. F. Hutchins, of Salem, who was the lowest bidder. The rock to be placed on broad saws just below the Eugene wagon road bridge. It is likely the rock will be taken out of the bank close at hand.

The outlook of ratification of the Hawaiian annexation treaty is now considered very bright. The friends of the measure believe they can secure for it 62 votes or three more than are needed. There has, it is said, been a marked change of sentiment since the European powers inaugurated their policy of aggression in China. The feeling is very strong in Alaska that unless the United States takes as prompt an interest in the future when one or more of the European nations attempt to acquire them or to give them to Japan as compensation for their grabs in China. Senator Davis, chairman of the committee on foreign affairs, says he will call the treaty up at the first executive session of the senate.

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The story of the delays has been almost altogether one of technicalities in the courts. The evidence of the crimes was collected easily and promptly. Prosecution and defense had all their testimony in hand at an early day. Through technicalities the trial was delayed until more than three months had elapsed from the crimes. Through technicalities the selection of the jury took seven weeks. Through technicalities the trial of the case was drawn over three months. After conviction the technicalities of appeal consumed two years and two months. The details of the legal fight are familiar to the reader. They have not illustrated the dignity of the law. They have made law a jest more fit for comic opera than for the serious business of giving justice.

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The case ought to lead to a revision of the criminal procedure of the State. When a man like Durrant, with little money, with no lawyers' attentions, below the ordinary, without friends or influence, can make sport of justice for years in this fashion, it is a warning that our system of justice is near to wreck. We can hope little from the judges in the way of reform, though the most should appeal strongly to them. But the Legislature should wipe out the whole list of technicalities that have grown up through the last half century, and let the courts take a fresh start. If the Legislature does its duty in the matter as the result of the scandal in the Durrant case, the criminal of the century will have served one use. If society is to be protected against the murderer, there must be a system of law under which the murderers are promptly punished.—Examiner.

Everybody Says So.

Carmichael's Compound, the most wonderful medical discovery of the age, is a safe and refreshing to the system, and a powerful purgative, liver and bowels, cleansing the system, removing all impurities, restoring the system, and curing all ailments of the system.—W. F. Kremer.

The Nicaragua canal convention will be held in Kansas City, January 17, 1898. A communication has been received by Governor Rogers from E. M. Williams, secretary of the convention, announcing that nearly all of the states have responded by appointing delegates, and it is believed that it will be the largest convention ever held in this country. The secretary urges the appointment of delegates from Washington. The governor announces that he is ready to appoint any representative citizen of this state who is willing to go and bear his own expenses.

The week of improvement of the upper river between Eugene and Harrisburg has been busy. For the past week a crew of men has been at work cutting down all overhanging trees from the banks. The steam pile-driver attached to the snag boat commenced work on the Sladden rapid shutting up the south channel and forcing the water down the center channel. The rock contract was let to E. F. Hutchins, of Salem, who was the lowest bidder. The rock to be placed on broad saws just below the Eugene wagon road bridge. It is likely the rock will be taken out of the bank close at hand.

The outlook of ratification of the Hawaiian annexation treaty is now considered very bright. The friends of the measure believe they can secure for it 62 votes or three more than are needed. There has, it is said, been a marked change of sentiment since the European powers inaugurated their policy of aggression in China. The feeling is very strong in Alaska that unless the United States takes as prompt an interest in the future when one or more of the European nations attempt to acquire them or to give them to Japan as compensation for their grabs in China. Senator Davis, chairman of the committee on foreign affairs, says he will call the treaty up at the first executive session of the senate.

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Washington Letter.

Congress will reasonable on Wednesday with as much unanimity as to what will be accomplished this year as was accomplished on the first day of the session, nearly a month ago. Instead of bringing the senators and representatives closer together, the holiday recess has served to accentuate the differences and to show how very far apart they are upon almost every subject upon which legislation will be attempted. The extreme gold standard republicans are insisting that the party must put legislation through the house, in which they have a majority, that will prove the sincerity of the party towards the gold standard; the republican silver senators are taking of the certainty of a big party defection if this advice is followed, and the conservative republicans are trying to get the consent of their radical colleagues to a programme that will either let finance alone entirely or only include some measure that can be supported by all members of the party.

The democrats and populists, having declared themselves in caucus to be opposed to all the financial recommendations of President McKinley and Secretary Gage, are now merely watching their opponents and waiting for them to try to do something.

The opponents of existing civil service conditions have so far only been able to agree upon one thing—that they want a change. The committee appointed as the cause of republicans to prepare a bill is divided in sentiment, and likely to report two bills, one to modify the law and one to repeal it outright, and it is stated that neither can command the solid vote of those who attended the caucus. The democrats have in caucus agreed to vote for a bill for the repeal of the law, but against any bill modifying it, and the populists have decided to vote against any bill proposing a change.