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# The Athena Press

Athena Merchants Carry Big Stocks

Buy Your Groceries from Your Home Grocer

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CATHERERS TO THE PUBLIC IN GOOD THINGS TO EAT

## LOOKING BACK A SPAN OF 30 YEARS

OLD PAPER CONTAINS INTERESTING READING MATTER.

Railway Terminus at Blue Mountain Station and Adams Just Platted Townsite.

July 4th, 1883, almost thirty years ago, a tow-headed urchin sold copies of a special edition of the Pendleton East Oregonian at 25 cents per, to people celebrating the national holiday in Centerville. The urchin was none other than Colonel Wood of Weston, and Centerville has long since been buried under the more classical name, Athena.

A copy of the paper is now before us and many columns of it would prove interesting reading to old timers residing in this vicinity.

Perusing the paper we read that the railroad, which was at Blue Mountain station, was expected in Centerville sometime during the fall. The young men of Weston and vicinity were taking up homesteads in the Cold Springs country, and west in this section was expected to turn out 30 bushels per acre. The town of Adams had just been platted by Press Worthington and Charles Bullfinch of Weston, owners of the townsite.

Les Morehouse was superintendent of Prospect farm, "where the enormous harvest of 8,600 acres is being gathered, yielding thirty bushels per acre. There are 4,840 acres under fence at this model farm," says the writer.

A Weston correspondent writes, "Some of the business men of Weston have started the new town of Adams on Wild Horse, five miles below Centerville, on the line of the W. W. & P. railroad. Judging from present indications Adams is destined to become one of the leading towns of Eastern Oregon. All business of business will be represented before the year is ended. The location is good, and the streets are laid out at right angles."

Large quantities of freight was being received at Blue Mountain station and freighted over the mountains to the Grand Ronde and Willowa country.

Farming at Pilot Rock, aside from the bottom lands, was in the experimental stage, and stockmen were beginning to seek for other pasture.

Speaking of Vansycle, the paper informs us that "two-thirds of the land is taken up for farming purposes, leaving one-third unclaimed. Five years ago there was not more than three or four tracts claimed in this whole section of country of about eighteen miles long by twelve miles wide. But a change has taken place. The song of the plowman is heard instead of the Indian war whoop. Vast fields of golden grain have taken the place of bunch grass. The buzz of the beeder is now heard instead of the heinous bark of the prowling coyote. Roads have been built, school houses erected and churches contemplated all in the short space of five years. B. H. Edgar, clerk of one of the school districts,—we have two—has just assessed his district, and informs us that the taxable property amounts to \$62,943, and he put everything at a low valuation.

"The wheat is looking well, especially fall sown that was put in early in the fall. Potatoes promise an abundant yield. Potatoes were plentiful. There has been new ones for the past two weeks. There has not been much corn planted. The country has not been settled long enough to produce fruit. Berries grow and flourish. Wild fax is to be found all over the country, which goes to prove that it could be cultivated here in great abundance. Alfalfa is at home in our soil. Fish abound in our streams. Elk, deer and bear roam our mountains."

John Edington was county school superintendent and notice appears that a teachers examination would be held in his office at Pendleton, continuing for two days.

The paper contains an extensive write-up, in part as follows:

Centerville is the third largest town in Umatilla county, and the second in prosperity. It is situated on the line of the Pendleton and Walla Walla branch of the O. R. & N. Co's railroad the town is in the eastern part of the county, just 19 miles from Pendleton, twenty-one miles from Walla Walla, W. T., three miles from Weston, and four miles from the new town of Adams.

The Wild Horse creek, a small mountain stream, flows slowly in summer by the prosperous burg, but in winter proceeds more quickly on ward toward Pendleton, near which it empties into the Umatilla river. The fertility of the soil adjacent to Centerville is excellent, and wheat, oats, barley and rye grow in endless quantities. Vegetables do not do so well. The Umatilla reservation lies south and east of the town, and when thrown open to settlement will add greatly to its prosperity. When the railroad reaches Centerville, which will occur some time this fall, the town will receive a boom and its business interests will be very much increased. It has a good future. The

country north and west of town is entirely settled up, and is one of the prettiest farming countries in the United States."

The business firms are epitomized in the article as follows:

Cook & Irvine established in drug business in the early part of 1878, and have enjoyed a fine trade, increasing every year.

H. Doolen was a dealer in general merchandise, and Knowlton & McDonald manufactured harness and saddles. J. M. Morris was an extensive dealer in dry goods, groceries, canned goods etc. Cleve & Hollis were dealers in general merchandise, having a well stocked establishment. Mr. Hollis but recently entered into partnership with Charles Cleve. B. E. Hervy was a harness maker and saddler, doing a good business. Tittsworth & Chesman were selling groceries, and D. G. Coy had just established the new City Drug Store.

Matlock Brothers of Pendleton had just opened up a kraach saloon. J. B. Pittit conducted the only restaurant in town where the hungry could get meals for 37 cents each. George Ely had opened a livery and feed stable. E. S. Green was in the blacksmith business, and B. D. Clemons was making wagons and doing all kinds of blacksmith work. E. King managed a tear hall, with the town pump for opposition, states the writer.

Mr. E. R. Cox was doing an excellent business in the hardware and farm implement line. William Walker conducted a furniture store, and the St. Nichols hotel was under the management of J. W. Froome. John T. Ballinger was Centerville's tonsorial artist, and Steve Wallace was the butcher. Mrs. R. Carden was the only milliner and dressmaker in town. E. M. Sloan was designated as a popular blacksmith, but failed to read the East Oregonian. The medical profession was represented by Drs. S. F. Sharp and E. R. Butler. J. Nat Hudson was the attorney, while the justice of the peace was F. Burnett.

The local news picked up in good style by John P. Harsell of the Umatilla Examiner, which was started by Mr. Harsell in Weston, November 1, 1883, and removed to Centerville April 1, 1888. E. L. Barnett was dealer in groceries. W. B. Richardson was the jeweler and watchmaker. Showmaker & Mattoon and Wheeler Brothers sold agricultural implements. Bamford & Hamilton operated a planing mill and Pat Maxwell made boots and shoes. Hun San was a laundryman who rumor said aided every public enterprise. There were two churches, the M. E. and Christian. Rev. A. Eads was pastor of the former and R. H. Moss of the latter. A handsome two story brick school building was considered an ornament to the town and F. J. M. Taylor then stationed at Millon, was soon to take charge of the public school. The article ends with:

"Centerville contains the finest school building in Umatilla county and shows a decided interest in educational matters. Its people are enterprising and deserve all their prosperity. The town is democratic. Mr. Kesson Smith is postmaster and C. P. Davis is his agreeable deputy. Long flourish Centerville."

## HEIRS ARE FOUND AT WESTON

Leaf Torn From Family Bible Located, Then Bible Found Under Shed.

An Everett, Wash., special says: A Bible found under a woodshed where it has been hidden by some one interested, and portraits led to the locating at Weston, Or., of the rightful heirs of the estate of Alice Howard, deceased, valued at \$8000, and today Judge W. P. Bell signed an order turning the property over to Emma Rich, grandchild of John F. Ferguson; a deceased brother of Mrs. Howard, Charles W. Ferguson; Sylvia Jane Ferguson, only child of another deceased brother; Mrs. A. J. Stacey, only child of a deceased sister, and Margaret A. Cobb, a sister.

The clever work of a woman detective employed by a Seattle attorney resulted in the heirs being located. She appeared at Marysville and stated that she desired to purchase the hotel left by the dead woman. In this way she found a way, through the custodian of the property, to search Mrs. Howard's trunk, and in it found a leaf that had been torn from the family Bible. Later on she found the Bible hidden in the woodshed together with family photographs and the clue led to the finding of the Weston heirs.

While Mrs. Howard was ill some unknown person sent an advertisement to Springfield, Ill., newspapers calling for heirs, and letters from all sections of the United States have been received by persons claiming to be relatives.

## Wheat Sold at Helix.

Helix Advocate: Friday and Saturday the local wheat market struggled up to the old famous 70 cents per bushel mark and as usual when that figure is reached, considerably wheat was sold, but many still refused to let go. Among those who sold at that figure were A. E. McCully, H. Koepke, Emma Zenske and Glenn Scott. There is still a large amount of shipping going on from Helix and other points on this branch of the N. P. owing to the scarcity of acres early in the season much of the wheat which was sold early in the fall still remains in the warehouses.

A limited number of horses will be taken by Casper Woodward, to winter on alfalfa hay.

## JOHN H. HITEMAN CALLED BY DEATH

GRAND ARMY MAN PASSES TO HIS REWARD MONDAY.

Afflicted With Paralysis, He Died Painlessly With Wife and Daughter at Bedside.

Death entered our midst Monday and called to his reward John Hiteman, pioneer citizen and beloved veteran of the civil war.

Mr. Hiteman was afflicted with a slight stroke of paralysis several days before his death, and when the summons came he was not long in going. He died oblivious to pain, with his wife and daughter at his bedside.

He is lamented by a wife and two children, Mr. Edward L. Hiteman of Berkeley, California, and Mrs. Henry Dell of this city. Funeral services were held at the Christian church, Thursday afternoon by A. Mackenzie Meldrum, and at the grave the Masons gave their beautiful burial ceremony.

John Henry Hiteman was born of German parents in Ripley county, Indiana, February 23, 1841 and at his death was aged 71 years, 10 months and 15 days. His boyhood and early manhood years were in those troublous times preceding the Civil War. He had been schooled by liberty loving parents, and when the great war broke out all his sympathies were with the North. On the 17th of July, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company E, Sixth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. More than half a century has passed away since he was called to the call of his country and marched with a light heart under the streaming folds of Old Glory. Who can tell what noble aspirations must have filled the heart of that young man as he, with his comrades in arms bled out of Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, with the thrill of the bugle in their blood calling them to the front. Many of them fell on the battlefield, while others survived the carnage; but all are worthy of a soldier's glory and a nation's gratitude, for all bared their bosoms to the southern foe. A foe than whom no more formidable and courageous ever assembled on the field of battle; led by a soldier, in the person of Robert E. Lee, who takes his place in history by the side of Marlborough, Wellington, and his invincible conqueror, Ulysses S. Grant. The southern men and the southern matrons were in every way the equals of the men and matrons of the north, in courage, devotion, conscience and heroism; the only weakness being that foul cancer which lay at the bottom of the immediate occasion which rent in two for a time this mighty Republic; for it is plain to every student of history; that had there been no slavery, there had been no secession and hence no war. But the war broke out with all the interlocking horns of implacable hatred nursed in the bosom of the North and the South for over forty years.

Captain Saunders was in command

## A WILD BLIZZARD BRINGS WINTER

GENERAL THROUGHOUT PACIFIC INTER-MOUNTAIN STATES.

Extending to California, Cold Wave Does Damage to Orange and Lemon Crop.

One of the worst storms in years raged in this section all day Tuesday and Tuesday night. Early in the afternoon the storm developed into a blizzard with snow, sand and dirt whirling along with a velocity of 45 miles an hour. The soil was lifted from around the wheat plants and fears are expressed by many farmers that there may be a freeze-out of the growing grain.

Before the blizzard began the weather had moderated so that stock did not suffer from cold. Huge drifts of snow and dirt accumulated in the roads, railway cuts were filled and traffic on all roads was delayed as a result. Fine particles of dust and sand sifted everywhere, and the housewife was kept busy Wednesday, dusting and cleaning.

Saturday night was the coldest of the winter, so far, thermometers registering close to the zero mark. The cold was felt to be more or less extreme by Athena people from the fact that winter has been excessively mild in temperature and the cold "snap" was the more noticeable for this reason.

Reports of severe weather is universal along the Atlantic seaboard territory, going, accompanied by freezing weather and snow are reported. The southern line in the stretches of King Frost, the citrus fruit crop having been greatly damaged.

Redlands, California estimates that fifty per cent of the fruit crop is lost on account of the cold. Orange districts report big frost losses. Santa Barbara reports damaged lemon crops. Colorado seems to have been the center of the cold wave, 31 below zero being reported at Denver Monday morning. Gillette recorded 29 below and all cities and towns in Wyoming and Colorado averaged 10 below.

German Class Entertained.

Miss Partridge's German class was royally entertained Thursday evening of last week at the McEwen home in this city. Messrs. Drew, Guerne and Starr, of the Athena High school, and Director B. B. Richards, were the invited guests of the class. The rooms were tastefully and appropriately decorated for the occasion, and an elaborate menu was served, consisting of seven courses. Fonets were responded to by the visitors and members of the class.

F. E. Parkyn III at Lewiston.

Mrs. B. H. Hill has received news of the critical illness of her brother-in-law, Frank E. Parkyn, at his home in Lewiston, Idaho. Mr. Parkyn has been confined to his home for the past two months, and recently has had a decided turn for the worse. Mrs. Hill expects to be called to Lewiston.

## LAMAR LOCAL HAS ELECTION

Interesting Meeting Where Report Is Received and Delegates Appointed.

Perhaps the readers of the Press may think it has been long since Lamar has been heard from; so I will avail myself of this opportunity to make myself known again. January 6, was our regular meeting of Lamar Local No. 6, of the F. E. & C. U. of A., which was fairly well attended. Results of the meeting was the election of the following officers for the ensuing year: Etta Carmichael, president; Joe Key, vice president; Alex. Johnson, conductor; Mrs. Sarah Swaggart, door keeper; Mrs. Ruth Key, chaplain; J. M. Swaggart, George Carmichael and Cass Cannon, executive committee.

After election of officers the delegate, Mrs. Etta Carmichael, submitted the report, which was very satisfactory. The report shows a very good business done at the convention held at Baker, January 3, 4 and 5. The sick problem was then discussed, and it seemed to endorse the move taken, the proposition being to secure cotton sacks to take the place of the jute sacks used heretofore, and the bulk system was also endorsed, where practical.

The following members were elected to attend the county convention to be held at Pendleton, January 11: J. M. Swaggart, Joe Key, Mrs. Ruth Key, Alex. Johnson, Miss Annie Johnson and Cass Cannon. The suggestion was made that a question box be installed, and the move was heartily endorsed by the union. After this a sumptuous lunch was spread, consisting of sandwiches, coffee and cake.

I will close by wishing you a prosperous New Year. Yours truly,  
J. M. S.

**JANUARY WHITE SALE**

**THE BROADEST MOST COMPREHENSIVE WHITE SALE WE'VE HELD-PROVIDING SUPERIOR QUALITIES AND GREAT VALUES.**

We open this Great White event Saturday morning January 11th after weeks of careful thought planning and painstaking preparations and with a determination to make it a white Sale extraordinary, and no matter for what purpose, no matter for what member of the family you want white goods, you'll find it here; and you'll find it here at prices extremely attractive—prices that afford you an opportunity to affect savings on your white-wear requirements for the next six months. Better arrange to take advantage of these unusual savings.

**Remember, Sale Begins Saturday Morning, January 11th**

**Send Us Your Mail Orders** The new parcels post law offers you a good chance to secure your goods from Pendleton by mail at very small cost—this law allows you to send packages by mail up to eleven pounds in weight and up to 72 inches in length and girth combined. The rate within fifty miles of Pendleton is as follows—Flat rate of 1c per ounce up to 4 ounces—above 4 ounces rates are paid by the pound—1st pound 5c—Each additional pound 3c—11 pounds 35 cents.

**The Peoples Warehouse**

Where it Pays to Trade. Save Your T. P. W. Trading Stamps.