

The Observer.

MORO, OREGON.

FRIDAY..... October 31, 1913

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C. L. IRELAND.....Manager.

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Much of the cork used throughout the world comes from Portugal, which harvests about 50,000 tons a year.

San Francisco recently received a cargo of lumber from the Tongass national forest, Alaska. The shipment consisted of 1,500,000 feet of Sitka spruce.

The attorney general has rendered an opinion to the county judge of Lincoln county that a county road running through a town automatically becomes a street when the town is incorporated, and the maintenance of the street thereafter devolves on the town.

It will cost the man who pays taxes on \$1000 about 18 cents to uphold the two University of Oregon appropriations November 4; it will cost the man who pays taxes on \$100 less than two cents. It will give alike to the man who pays taxes on \$1000 or \$100, however, facilities for education in a state institution that he has himself helped build, without the necessity of paying fees. There are no fees at the State University.

For another year 10-year-old children, who can neither read or write, will lend their efforts to increasing the fortunes of cotton mill owners of Georgia. The bill, which raised the age limit for working children to 13 years for 1914 and provided a further increase to 14 years in 1915, has been sidetracked in the legislature, and the session is about to close. Georgia has made practically no advances along this line since 1906. This is not creditable to the traditional chivalry and civilization of the south.

Just Think of It

A little boy once said to his schoolmates, "I don't make any more mistakes." This little boy had such poor eye sight that he could not read letters three and one-half inches square more than six feet away from him, and yet he had been repeatedly punished by his teacher for making mistakes while taking his lessons. Just think of it; punished for making mistakes when he could not see plainly!

How did he find out that his eyes were weak? His schoolteacher had been making tests of the sight of her pupils and discovered that this boy could not see well. She reported the fact to his parents, who got glasses that made him the happiest boy in school, saved him many undeserved punishments and caused him to say, "I don't make any more mistakes."

This boy did not know, nor did his parents know, but that he saw as well as every other boy, and his mistakes were thought to be from carelessness and inattention.

Canned Goods in Demand

An order for three carloads of string beans is declared to be the first large order ever received of canned vegetables from the west to the east.

The Lane county cannery has dispatched four carloads of dried prunes for shipment to London and two more carloads will go before the end of this month. The cannery will soon begin to pack pumpkins.

The only drawback remaining to a better use of the parcel post is the necessity for going to the post office to mail packages, instead of dropping them into a box. This is a result of the zonal system, which makes the figuring of the proper rate somewhat complicated. Yet, even this will be overcome, probably by a system of collecting any shortage of postage from the consignee, as is done with first-class mail. The freest possible use of the parcel post is what is needed.

Turkey red wheat imported from the farm of Count Liedner, a seed specialist of Budapest, Bulgaria, has been received at Pomeroy, Wash. According to a letter accompanying the wheat the crops from which this wheat was selected yielded 47 to 56 bushel per acre.

The campus of the University of Oregon contains 52 varieties of trees, a number that surprises newcomers who think the standard and almost the only tree of Oregon is the fir.

War Time Letters

Reliquary of Youth in Battle Service for Preservation of United States as a World Power

One of Several Letters written at that time by Postmaster Parry to his Father at Home

Moro, Ore., October 22nd, 1913

Mr. Editor—
Father filed and saved all my letters written home during my service in the army, and at his death, by his request they were given to me, for the first time, only last week I read a few, and among the rest the one from which the following is taken, is only a part, of the letter but I believe its age may make it interesting reading for the present generation, remember it is a boys letter.
Respectfully, J. M. Parry.

In Camp Near Berlin, Maryland, Friday, July 17th, 1863

Dear Father:—

I take this opportunity to write you hoping it will find you all well, I wrote you on the 4th from Gettysburg, did you get that letter, since I have been unable to mail a letter except as a citizen will do it for me.

We are now camped near Berlin, reached this camp yesterday, the army is crossing over on pontoons at Berlin as fast as possible, report says that the first corps is going to remain in Maryland, in place of the 8th corps, our corps does not number over 6000 men now, we had a great many 9 months and 2 years men in it, but small as it is we can whip a dozen such corps as the—there is no use to talk more of the fighting qualities of the,—but the 6th corps is a large one and a splendid one to, we have one brigade in our corps in the first division, called the "Iron Brigade" that can't be best in the world for fighting and staying qualities, its composed of the 2nd, 6th, & 7th Wisconsin and the 19th Indiana, General Meredith is their commander, a brave accomplished officer, but this has nothing to do with the first corps staying in Maryland, before this reaches you, you will probably know where we are, when I last wrote we were at Gettysburg, the night of the 4th the rebels commenced to retreat, Sunday afternoon our corps got marching orders, we broke camp and went as far as the battle field, there we had to stop and let the 6th, 11th and 5th corps pass us, it took them all night to pass, we

Head to Grin and Bear It
there was a drizzling rain falling all night, in the morning we moved out, marched about 10 miles and camped near Emmitsburg, the next morning we were on the move by daylight and marched that day over 30 miles, we did not get into camp until midnight, our orders were to get to Middletown that night, but our horses could not make it, just at dark we commenced to climb the mountains it was 3 miles up, just as we reached the top, reaching a place to camp it commenced to rain and rained from that time until the next day noon.

We were so completely tired out that we were glad to have a chance to lay down even if it was on the wet ground, all the soldiers would say was "we are willing to march and have it rain, if it will only raise the Potomac so that Lee's army can't get across before we get there, we want to give them another whipping." We did get there in time, but what good did it do? our noble general can better tell than the men, all honor to General Meade, he keeps his men out of danger, he is a brilliant general, I wonder if he is not a Quaker, but we are on the top of the mountain, the next morning daylight, we were ordered to break camp, but did not move out before 8, we reached Middletown about 10 and went into camp in a meadow where the grass was up to our

knees, at noon it cleared up, there was a creek in the meadow in which we washed our horses, selves and clothes, about 4 p. m. we started towards south mountain, we got there and camped on The South Mountain Battle Field a battle you will remember preceding Antietam, we stayed there all night, also the next day and night, the second morning, Friday the 10th we started towards Boonsboro and passed thru there about half past six and kept on the road towards Hagerstown, instead of turning off towards Antietam as we all expected to; we marched about 6 miles on the Hagerstown pike when we turned off to the right, and about 2 p. m. we took position on a hill called "Bunker Hill" here the infantry threw up rifle pits, this looked very strange to us, but then we thought, of course General Meade knows what he's about, we remained there that night, the next day and night and until 2 p. m. the next day, (the 12th Sunday) here it was that we had the report that Meade had given Lee 24 hours to surrender in, Sunday the 12th we started for the front, again not having fired a gun in our last position, we passed thru Funkstown about 4 p. m. and went into position just the other side of the village and in sight of Hagerstown, here the infantry threw up two lines of very strong rifle pits, report said we had them all right, they could not cross the river, if it had not been for these reports, I hardly think the army could have been prevented from attacking the rebels; even our division generals wanted to go in, but General Meade

Understands His Business
they would say, we will have them alright whenever he wants to pounce on them, Meade is no fool, well we remained out there that night, the next day and night and the second day until afternoon, we did not fire a gun, all the firing that there was, was between the pickets.

We thought it very strange; we would have an order to advance to battle with joy. Tuesday the 14th several citizens came in and told us the rebel army had crossed the river. We would not believe them, but about 3 p. m. we got orders to advance, we did advance, only to find the bird flown.

If curses will send general Meade to hell he will certainly go there the papers will tell you they (the rebels) had a very strong position, that is all humbug, they had one line of fortifications, they were quite strong but we could have carried them by storm like a book.

We had whipped them at Gettysburg and was anxious to fight them again on Maryland soil, we had plenty of ammunition and plenty to eat and had received reinforcements.

Hooker Was Not Afraid
to fight the rebels on Fredericksburg heights when they had line after line of rifle pits, but Meade must draw his army up in line of battle trenches and then spend over 48 precious hours waiting for the enemy to attack him, he entrenched so strong that Lee is forced out of Maryland, oh what brilliant generalship, I suppose its what they call strategy, we had rest enough to suit the slow notions of McClellan, Burnside would not have wanted half the time, for you must know we had over 50 hours rest, but all the time Hooker would ask would be time enough to get his

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army there, Hooker was the man for the occasion, the army liked him, he was brave, dashing and had confidence in his men.

Meade could not help whipping them at Gettysburg, succeeding Hooker he found the army in the best condition, McClellan was an organizer, but Hooker beat him all to pieces, the infantry was in the best kind of fighting condition, the artillery was brigaded and formed into a distinct branch of the service, and the cavalry formed into a splendid corps, all this was Hooker's work.

Well we have given the rebels a good thrashing, and on top of that the news comes that Grant has taken Vicksburg, and besides glorious news from Charleston; wish we had Grant in command here. Good bye for this time with love,
J. M. Parry.

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