

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

CONDITION OF THE "UTTER."—Capt. Dillon, one of the owners and formerly master of the Emma Utter, came up on the Arcata, and brought a diver from San Francisco to examine into the condition of the vessel.

A VALUABLE BOOK.—Mr. J. R. Griffith, of Port Orford, is on the Bay canvassing for a biography of General Grant, including his late tour around the world.

LITERARY EXERCISES.—A new department has been decided upon in the Literary Society here. The men of age and experience are to "take a back seat" and give some of the younger talent a chance.

CEDEAR FOR PORTLAND.—It is understood that Parker's mill on the Coquille will cut a small cargo of cedar lumber soon for the Portland market.

COQUILLE RIVER COMMERCE.—The Schooners Mose and Free Trade are in the Coquille River, the former having arrived last Sunday and the latter Monday, after a voyage of 43 days.

ON A "STRIKE."—The coal miners at Eastport are on a strike, asking an increase of a bit a ton for mining. The present price paid is 87 1/2 cents.

ARRIVED.—The Arcata came into the Bay on Monday, with passengers named as follows: Chas. Brant, T. R. Sheridan, Miss Leeds, Mrs. Green, D. McGlave, Wm. Newman, Henry Bredhoff, Capt. Dillon and D. Cook.

GOOD TIME.—The Arcata which sailed from this port on the 13th made the trip to San Francisco and was again at our wharves on the 19th having made the trip in six days. She is "hard to beat."

The Clara Light had some of her rigging carried away in the late gale. Both steamers are loaded and will sail as soon as the condition of the weather permits.

Mr. C. H. Merchant will be a passenger for San Francisco by the first boat, accompanied by his wife.

The schooner Frithioff, Capt. Chester, came into the bay Monday without a rudder and having experienced a hard trip generally.

The steamer Telfair arrived on Monday last, 46 hours from San Francisco with the following passengers:

J. C. Robinson and wife, Mrs. J. M. Siglin, J. Kelly, S. Magnett, Chas. Pratt, Eliza Linsengle and two children.

The contract for quarrying and delivering the rock for the harbor work is said to have been awarded to H. H. Luse at \$2 per cubic yard.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Forslund are booked as passengers to San Francisco by the Arcata. They will return after a short absence.

A large number of petitions praying for the creation of a new inspection district for steam vessels, with headquarters at Coos Bay have been forwarded to Congress from this place, for which we bespeak favorable consideration.

Proceedings of County Commissioner's Court.

Began Wednesday, Jan. 7th, 1880.

HON. J. H. NOSLER, Judge, JOHN KENYON, Commissioner.

State vs W H Noble et al—Empire precinct, Sengstacken J P. Witnesses: A Duprey 3 50, Wilbert Noyes 3 50, J M Davis 1 70, W H Jackson 1 70, Wm Hall 1 50, Alex Stauff 1 70, P C Durjan 1 50, D L Watson 1 50, G Webster 1 50, T G Owen 1 50, J Hacker 1 50.

State vs Gus Viero—Empire precinct Sengstacken J P. Henry Sengstacken, \$0 85.

State vs J Hunter—Marshfield precinct Bull J P. J C Bull \$3 30 Constable \$4 25.

State vs W E Moore Marshfield precinct Bull Justice \$4 15 Spec. constab. 5 45. S B Sherwood, Justice \$6 30, S Martlett, constable 9 10.

Witnesses: Mrs Masters \$1 70, Mrs Beumell \$1 70, Mrs Howard 1 70, Mrs Lorr 1 70, Mrs Darnelle 2 10, A Wright 1 70, Mrs Robertson 1 70, O Darnelle 2 10, Mrs Dully 1 70, G Robertson 1 70, Mrs Sherrard 1 70.

State vs Emma Lower, Summer precinct S B Sherwood, Justice \$2 70, S Martlett, constable 1 60.

State vs John Doe—grand larceny; consideration continued to next term.

MISCELLANEOUS table listing various items and prices: Alexander Stauff, Co. Clerk \$550 85, J F Moore, School Supt. 100 00, R J Cussans, bailiff for July and April term Co. Court 12 00, D Morse, Jr., Co. Treasurer 75 00, Jno Kenyon, Commissioner 14 00, J H Nosler, Co. Judge 150 00, A G Aiken, Sheriff 261 50, R W Getty, coal and wood for court house, 53 50, Alex. Stauff, County Court seal " " stationery 46 25, Mrs M A Jackson, meals to jurors 6 00, COAST MAIL, printing blanks 50 00, F Horswell, J P Coos City precinct, making jury list 3 00, A H Moore, J P Coquille precinct, making jury list 3 00.

CURRY COUNTY ITEMS.

On account of the absence of both County Commissioners, no county business was transacted at the meeting of the County Court on the 5th, but a special session is called for the 26th.

A large barn belonging to S. B. Gardner, blew down in the late storm, injuring some horses seriously. One male, valued at \$200, was so badly hurt that it could not be saved, and it was accordingly shot.

None of the old settlers ever saw the little of the gale of the 9th.

The little steamer Chas. Harley was at Ellensburg about the 6th, bringing as passengers Mr. Robt. Walker and Mr. Thompson, who has charge of the business of R. D. Home & Co. She brought a large amount of merchandise for Home's store.

I. H. ATKINSON has moved to Empire City.

The Clara Light finished her cargo of coal at Southport, Thursday.

It is understood that Cashman's new schooner will be launched next week.

SURVEYOR Wright says he will be surveying in the Ten Mile country in about four weeks.

J. W. Bennett's house on the Coquille Island was demolished by the late storm.

Charles Olive has taken the post of sawyer in Parker's mill on the Coquille.

The State Line Herald has been enlarged to seven columns, and is now one of the best local papers in this State.

The Satellite still lies at Goose Point, but it is reported that she is but little damaged, and will soon be repaired and ready for service.

The Gusie Telfair has received new boilers and been generally refitted and improved. She now affords good accommodations, and is in every respect a seaworthy and reliable boat.

There are living up in Idaho, a small colony of polygamists and the Chief Justice of the Territory has instructed the grand jury to indict every one found in that Territory.

The steamer Annie on the Coquille runs a boarding house on board, which is in charge of Mr. Z. T. Johnson.

A dispatch of the 6th says: Senator Slater to-day introduced bills proposing appropriations for river and harbor improvements in Oregon as follows: For the Columbia river canal at the Cascades, \$500,000; Coos Bay, \$60,000; Coquille river, \$50,000; Yaquina Bay, — thousand dollars.

LEWIS E. H. SHELTON, of the 1st E. S. Cavalry, died on the night of the 12th instant, in the overland stage in the canyon about ten miles from Canyonville, of a congestive chill. He was about 33 years of age, a graduate of West Point, and a good officer.

Excitement in the New York Wheat Market.

A dispatch from New York, dated January 12th, says: Excitement is very great at the produce exchange over a corner in grain. Crowds of persons interested in cereals are eagerly discussing ways and means to defeat the action of Keene's syndicate.

The method most approved is to combine the different railroad companies having connections west of Chicago in a reduction of rates for grain, to enable farmers and others to sell grain direct to the eastern markets. The syndicate has filled elevators, stores and canal boats to overflowing, and in addition to these are paying storage on 6,000,000 bushels of wheat at one half per cent. per week. They have also, gather nearly 10,000,000 bushels of grain here and Chicago and 1,000,000 more on railroads.

The Star of to-day says: Private letters were received yesterday by leading grain dealers in this city which state that farmers cannot make sales through anxious to do so, because of no place to store their product, and that a gang of speculators have gained control of the market for the purpose of speculation. It is claimed that the same scarcity of storage quarters exists at all sea board cities, and that this glut has been created at wheat centers to bolster up the market by exhausting the demand and picking up the supply. The corner, which received a black eye a week ago, by an unlooked for raid on the Chicago market, it is now said has recuperated and is in full control of wheat speculators.

This pool, it is said, is headed by Jim Keane, who is credited with having bought up the entire product of both this year and last, amounting to millions of bushels. It is known that he sent checks some time ago through to a Chicago bank for \$3,000,000 to settle some of his enormous purchases, and that he ordered it to be stored for future orders. He is also credited with having sent Rufus Hatch to England to manipulate European markets, so as to secure a good price there, but as Hatch is in New York that report is exploded.

The World publishes an interview with Hatch, who says the blockade is more in oats and corn than in wheat and that the present situation does not differ from that of March last year, when Chicago warehouses held over 12,000,000 bushels of grain. Today they hold over 14,000,000. Owners of grain there do not propose to pay 54 cents a bushel to get it to seaboard, preferring to wait for the opening of navigation. He charges the high rates upon Vanderbilt. He also says: "I may be over sanguine, but I believe in very much higher prices. European and the United Kingdom have very short crops, and of very poor quality. It is not one county of the country that is short, not one but all of them. It is universal. Wheat is not at present prices, what may be termed as high, and is only a few points above the average of the last few years. Prospects of the growing winter wheat crops are anything but flattering. There is an increase of acreage in winter wheat districts, but in many localities, wheat sprouted out, and with the recent warm weather and rains, these districts will not produce more than one bushel to the acre."

Duels and Drinking at Leipzig.

Ridiculous duels are very frequent, says a writer in the Boston Advertiser, and are against the law, but as they are not attended with much danger they are winked at. It is said here that those duels increase the sense of honor, etc., an idea for which I cannot see one spark of justification. Each additional scar on a student's face increases his swagger and insolence, the only increase visible to me. Fist fights occur very seldom, and when they do happen, amount to nothing. They push and shout and scratch a good deal, and that is about all. A few days ago, together with a western friend, I was watching one of those pushing matches, when the gentleman in question observed, in a disgruntled tone of voice: "Out in Cheyenne, where I live, when fifty men get to fighting you have to sweep up the eyes and noses afterwards," saying which he jumped down into the middle of the crowd, doing the only damage reported. Of course the students drink a good deal of beer, but they leave whiskey and brandy alone. I have known a man to drink 52 glasses of strong beer in a little more than 12 hours. A feat which equals it was performed by an officer here, celebrated only for his drinking qualities. At dinner one day a comrade offered to bet him a large sum that he could not drink a quart bottle of champagne out without taking the bottle from his lips. The challenged man thought a moment, and said: "Give me half an hour to think it over." He went out, came back in half an hour, accepted the bet, and won it, amid great applause. Some one asked him why it took him so long to accept it. "Well," he said, "I was not quite sure I could do it; so I went home first and tried it, and found out I could do it and then came back."

School House Crushed and Children Killed.

Our Northern exchanges give an account of the crushing of a school house in the late storm by the falling of a tree, at La Center.

The children were eating lunch, four of John W. Barlow's being seated together. The tree fell across the roof falling it to the ground and crushing the children beneath it. Two of them a boy and a girl, were instantly killed, while Ruth, aged 16, had several of her ribs broken, was internally injured and remained beneath the wreck for two hours before she could be released. The fourth child, a boy 14 years of age, had the skin torn from above his eye-brows to the top of his head, yet he will probably recover. The young lady it is feared will die. Three other children were injured, but not seriously. The remainder of the scholars and the teacher escaped without injury.

The Storm in the Canyon.

The Independent gives the following account of the recent storm in the Canyon beyond Laird's.

When within about eight miles of Laird's station, in the Canyon, they noticed a peculiar stillness of the atmosphere. Not a leaf nor a twig moved. The death-like stillness was broken by the distant roar of the ocean waves, furiously lashing the beach full thirty miles distant. Every few steps birds would flit across the path of the mail carriers, chirping frightened tones of warning. Mr. Eugene Jones, on looking toward the tops of the mountains, discovered the cause of such singular warning, and not a bit too soon. A rush to the friendly protection of a large, projecting rock and the witnesses of this grand and fearful sight had ample leisure to view a scene never to be forgotten. Rolling down the mountain side in chaotic confusion came a tornado of wind, carrying with it trees, rocks and debris of every description. The path of the hurricane was plainly visible, and as the mighty, rushing torrent of wind and debris struck the unbroken front of the forest, a mighty crash, a terrific rumbling and the noble forest yielded to unknown power. Trees, limbs, splinters, rock and other matter filling the air making the atmosphere, almost dark! Noble old gigantic heroes of forests which had stood the tempests of hundreds of years, were twisted from their stumps or roots, and sent flying through the air like wisps of straw.

For three long hours the storm lasted with now and then a resting spell as if to prepare for more increased fury.

The mail carriers were all this time imprisoned behind a friendly rock with no living thing to share their terror save a panic stricken deer, which had sought shelter behind the same rock, fearless of the close proximity of human beings; in fact it seemed rather to court their protection, and came so close that the men could lay their hand upon it. The result of the storm has been the filling of the road with fallen timber to such an extent as to make it almost impossible for the mail carriers to get the mail through.

Attempt to Stop Wells, Fargo & Co's Letter Business.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—The report of Special Agent Sharet to the post-office department concerning Wells, Fargo & Co's delivery of letters on the Pacific coast sets forth the magnitude of their business in this respect by stating that they purchase on an average 200,000 stamped envelopes per month in San Francisco, and doubtless proportionate numbers in Portland, Salt Lake City and other places. The grounds upon which the department is asked to interfere with this business are as follows:

First, that Wells, Fargo & Co. do not pay a double rate of postage, and consequently their stamped envelopes which they sell for five cents, contain often more matter than would pass through a postoffice for three cents.

Secondly, that the company's correspondence between its various banking houses is carried free and that besides the Western Union Telegraph Co. and the Central Pacific R. R. have an arrangement with the express company by which their letters are transported without cost, thus depriving the government of postage which it should receive.

Thirdly, it is alleged that about one fifth of the express company's 500 agents on the Pacific slope are postmasters, and that they are accountable by law for selling stamped envelopes at higher prices than the government charges.

A committee of prominent post office department officials has been appointed to examine this subject and it will be thoroughly examined, but it does not seem to be generally expected that they will discover statute authorizing material interference with the existing business, and in view of the formidable litigious resources of the company and the opposition already indicated on the part of California representatives against the suggested curtailment of business facilities of the company constituents, it is probably that the committee will move in the matter very cautiously.

Our Northern exchanges give an account of the crushing of a school house in the late storm by the falling of a tree, at La Center.

The children were eating lunch, four of John W. Barlow's being seated together. The tree fell across the roof falling it to the ground and crushing the children beneath it. Two of them a boy and a girl, were instantly killed, while Ruth, aged 16, had several of her ribs broken, was internally injured and remained beneath the wreck for two hours before she could be released. The fourth child, a boy 14 years of age, had the skin torn from above his eye-brows to the top of his head, yet he will probably recover. The young lady it is feared will die. Three other children were injured, but not seriously. The remainder of the scholars and the teacher escaped without injury.

O'Brien's Estate.

The San Francisco Chronicle says that the examination on the opposition of John H. Burke to the account filed by the executors of the O'Brien estate was resumed yesterday, when the Referee stated that on consultation he was wrong in ruling that James V. Coleman need not answer the question put him several days since as to whether Coleman, as Executor, had a knowledge of any property, belonging to the estate not mentioned in the account, and the witness must answer the question. Mr. Coleman said: "I know of an interest in real estate on San Pablo avenue, Oakland, known as the Rowland Tract, and standing in the name of N. K. Maston, for which the firm of Flood & O'Brien paid \$180,000, Maston owning a half interest and paying interest on half of the purchase, all of which was advanced by the firm. O'Brien's share is one fourth. From conversations with Mr. Flood I also know there are some debts collected by the firm and some still to be collected. At the time of O'Brien's death he had no interest in the South Pacific Coast Railroad. I don't know whether he had an interest in the Bay and Coast Railroad, Bay and Coast Telegraph Company, California Trading Company, Pacific Investment Company, California Investment Company, land at Guaymas or other parts of Mexico, or in Nevada county, California. He had a seat in the Stock and Exchange Board. Isn't that mentioned in the account? The seat carried with it an interest in the building. At the time of his death it was worth \$25,000. O'Brien having no family, and not having made a request to pay the life insurance to any one, we can't recover it. I think this seat could not have been sold, no one could have been elected to fill it. I approached some of the members and was led to believe this. The brokers looked upon it as a constructive gift at the time the building was put up. I think now the feeling may be different." [Mr. McAlister here made a suggestion that perhaps Burke could get elected.] "The executors have received money from the firm since the account was rendered. The last payment was, I think, nearly \$1,500,000, and put it down over a million, Mr. Reporter, I can't say the amount of the rest, and don't remember how it was made up, as it will appear in the next account and the executor's books will show."

Mr. Trehan here introduced documentary evidence to show the value of California, Consolidated Virginia, Yellow Jacket, and Ophir stock on the day when it had been sold to Fair below market rates. The examination was then continued to Monday next.

A stay of proceedings of twenty days has been granted by Judge Sawyer to enable the defendants to perfect their appeal to the United States Supreme Court from his order remanding the case of Burke against the Pacific Mill and Mining Company, Flood, Fair and Mackay, and Burke against Pacific Wood, Lumber and Flume Company, Flood, Fair and Mackay, to the State Courts.

A Kearney Blast.

A dispatch from Washington, dated Jan. 10, says: Denis Kearney, in his speech before the Greenback Labor Delegates yesterday, said that they were here to attend to business, and to carry out their purpose when they go home; not to shout here and get home to lean up against a bar. He related an anecdote about his advice to a man on a sailing ship, to put his bible in his pocket and work the pump. They were all bound for the same port—the White House, which they intended to capture. The Republican party was run by national bank directors, iron hooped and shod in hell, (applause) and the Democratic party were their emissaries. "You," he said, "you mudsills and mutton-heads of society, have been driven up year after year like sheep in California. He had formed a party to capture the capitol, and they did it. He did not intend to use big words, and he might as well say that he was a Greenbacker, and that he believed that the directors of national banks should be sent to the lowest regions of hell, and that the men, if they had the courage, should hang John Sherman for attempting to fill an office he is not fitted for. (Loud applause). He admonished them not to be bought off when voting time comes, adding that these adventurers would attempt to buy them off by sending a nice young lady to them if they could not reach them any other way. To-day they found every man who had stolen a dollar in favor of a strong Government, and such a move to the labor party would give them a Government of the people, by the people and for the people. (Renewed applause).

The Turner Murder Case.

The first announcement of the killing of Strode by Turner, editor of the East Oregonian, seemed to fix the crime of murder upon Turner beyond the possibility of a doubt, but the facts drawn out on his examination seems to excuse, if not to justify him. A witness, Anderson, says Turner came into the saloon and asked Strode what he struck Black for. He said, "Black drew a pistol on me, and I struck him." He asked Turner if he wanted some of it, to which he replied, "No, I don't want to have any trouble with you." Strode then threw a glass of whisky in Turner's face and then the glass. The two men then closed in and Turner got the deceased down and held him, begging him to behave himself, as he, Turner, wanted no bulldog fighting. They both got up, when Strode struck Turner in the face again and tried to choke him by twisting a scarf around his neck. Turner had him down again and still begged Strode to leave him alone and behave himself. Turner got up and left the house without his hat. He returned in a short time for his hat, and while in the act of brushing it, he was attacked fiercely by Strode which resulted in the stabbing.

The Peruvian Hero.

At the time when news of the terrible and magnificent naval combat in which the Huascar was captured and her heroic commander perished at his post was received, the report went abroad, and met with general credit, that the Peruvian Admiral was of German birth. It appears, however, that such is not the case. That gallant naval commander was not an imported foreign mercenary. His splendid valor and his imperishable fame belong rightfully to the nation under whose flag he died.

His father was a Colombian of Castilian descent, Miguel Grau, his famous son, the hero of the present naval battle in which the maritime strength of Peru was broken, was born in Piura in 1834. When only ten years of age the younger Grau was shipped as an apprentice on a merchant vessel, in which he became mate when in his eighteenth year. In 1857 he obtained a subordinate position in the Peruvian navy. In 1858 he was compelled to leave the naval service in consequence of having united with those who protested in energetic terms against a foreigner being placed in command of the fleet. He then once more found occupation in the merchant service, and became Captain of one of the steamers of the Pacific Navigation Company. In 1859 he re-entered the Peruvian Navy, and joined what was known as the "Civil Party," which subsequently proclaimed the candidacy of the Padro. When the present war broke out he was given the command of the "Huascar," and with it that of the first division of the Peruvian fleet, consisting of the iron clads which last May achieved such a splendid victory over the Chilean squadron.

It is pleasant to note the fact that the Chilean papers do not grudge their noble enemy a fitting meed of praise. They speak of him as "a hero worthy of engaging heroes," and dub him the "Paul Jones of the Pacific."

Crimes and Casualties.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 6.—A Lake Providence special says City Marshal Maguire, attempting to arrest a number of flatboat men, was shot dead. Five men were arrested on suspicion and placed under a guard. Monday night several of Maguire's relatives broke into the prison and fired upon the prisoners, wounding all, two mortally. The men killed and wounded by Maguire's relatives were innocent.

A Terrible Fate.

A party of men engaged in getting out timber for the Northern Pacific Railroad near the head of the Yakima River, a short time since, when the roof of their cabin fell in throwing a named John Allison prostrate across a bed of coals and holding him there. His frantic efforts to release himself were entirely unavailing, and he laid there shrieking in agony as the embers ate their way into his quivering vitals. His friends could do nothing to release him from his awful position, until they had chopped through the thick timbers binding him down. He was removed, but with the flesh upon his breast and abdomen literally roasted. Hopes of his recovery were very slight.

breast of Cole, killing him instantly. Wafford immediately came to town and surrendered himself to the sheriff, but was afterwards discharged from custody, the coroner's jury having returned a verdict of excusable homicide.

A Carnival of Sunset Colors at Donner Lake.

As I rode toward the head of the lake, it became every moment grander and more unutterably lovely. The sun was setting fast, and against his golden light green promontories, wooded with stately pines, stood one beyond another in a medium of dark rich blue, while gray bleached summits, peaked, turreted and snow-splashed, were piled above them gleaming with amber light. Darker grew the blue gloom, the dew fell heavily, aromatic odors floated on the air, and still the lofty peaks glowed with living light, till in one second it dried off from them leaving them with the ashy paleness of a dead face. It was dark and cold under the mountain shadows, the frosty chill altitude wrapped me round, the solitude was overwhelming, and I reluctantly turned my horses' heads towards Truckee, often looking back to the ashy summits in their unearthly fascination. Eastward the look of the scenery was changing fast, while the lake remained one burnished sheet of living gold, and Truckee lay utterly out of sight in a hollow, filled with lake and cobalt. Before long a carnival of color began, which I can only describe as delicious, intoxicating, a hardly bearable joy, a tender anguish, an indescribable yearning, an unearthly music, rich in love and worship.

The Maine Troubles.

When the Supreme Court of Maine decided against the claims of the members of the Legislature that had been counted in by the Governor and Council, it was hoped that the difficulties were in a fair way for speedy settlement, but the fusionists refused to pay any attention to the decision, and went ahead, and organized their part of the Legislature of their own and claim to have the legal right to recognition. They have submitted the question involved in the controversy to the Supreme Court, and Chamberlain will be governed in his action by the decision of the Court, as to which of the organizations he will recognize.

At Ellensburg, Jan. 1st 1880, by Rev. C. Philbrook, Mr. John Smith and Miss Deby Coy.

At Ellensburg, Jan. 1st 1880, by Mansfield, J. P. Mr. Frank Manzett and Miss Lizzie Gauntlett.

At the residence of Daniel Malone on Rogue river, Curry County, Jan. 9th 1880, Capt. J. W. Bowman, aged 74 years, and a farmer by occupation,

MARRIED.

At the residence of Robt Walker in Ellensburg, Curry county, January, 11 1880, by Rev. G. E. Philbrook, Mr. Jesse Carey and Mrs. Alice McCormick, all of Curry county.

At Rogue river, Jan 1st 1880, by Rev. C. Philbrook, Mr. Willis Miller and Miss Sarah Post.

At Rogue river, Jan 1st 1880, by Rev. C. Philbrook, Mr. John Smith and Miss Deby Coy.

At Ellensburg, Jan. 1st 1880, by Mansfield, J. P. Mr. Frank Manzett and Miss Lizzie Gauntlett.

DIED.

At the residence of Daniel Malone on Rogue river, Curry County, Jan. 9th 1880, Capt. J. W. Bowman, aged 74 years, and a farmer by occupation,

At the residence of Daniel Malone on Rogue river, Curry County, Jan. 9th 1880, Capt. J. W. Bowman, aged 74 years, and a farmer by occupation,