

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

PETITION FOR PARDON.—A petition is being circulated in this county for the pardon of James Gibbons, who was convicted of the crime of manslaughter in this county and sent to the Penitentiary for ten years, in 1875. While we are not willing to concede that the evidence in his case was insufficient to justify the verdict, we have no desire to oppose his pardon. His conduct while in the Penitentiary is said to have been exceptionally good, and from the circumstances developed on the trial it seems probable that Edwards, who was sentenced for life for the same crime, was the principal actor in robbery and murder of Noble, that Gibbons' co-operation in the crime was of a passive character, he being under the influence of liquor at the time, while Edwards planned and executed the villainy. He has already been in duration for something over four years, and is in declining health. Under the circumstances, the ends of justice can hardly be said to call for his further confinement.

FOUND DEAD.—Last Monday, as H. P. Whitney and Geo. M. Dyer were coming up the coast, they discovered the body of a man lying on the beach about four miles from Bandon, by the side of a tree root, where he had apparently lain down and chilled to death. On examination it proved to be the body of an old man named Arthur Boyd Scott, (better known as "Hunter Scott") who has been for some years past a resident on the head waters of Flora's creek. He was seen passing Bandon the evening before with a horse, which was apparently loaded with a light pack, and it appears probable that night overtook him there and he laid "down to his last sleep." Mr. Scott was a man of eccentric habits, and probably sixty-five years old; he had, so far as we have been able to learn, no relatives in this part of the country, but he lived a lonely life in the hills and enjoyed the good will of his neighbors.

"UNLAWFULNESS."—Friday of last week, G. W. Thomas ("Kentuck") and W. S. Wheeler, had a little difficulty about some plank used by Mr. Thomas for crossing the creek, which Mr. Wheeler said he would throw down when they were in his way. Mr. Wheeler says Thomas wanted to shoot him with a Henry rifle, and Thomas says Wheeler had a desire to string him on a pike-pole. Wheeler got hold of the gun which Thomas had, and broke it over a plank, which terminated the fight. Wheeler had Thomas arrested and bound over for assault with a dangerous weapon, bonds being fixed by Justice Songstacken at \$250. Thomas furnished the required bail. As the matter will be examined by the Grand Jury, we abstain from comment upon the merits of the case.

IN JAIL.—E. La Selles, formerly of Curry County, and more recently of Gardiner, has been arrested in Roseburg for forging an order or certificate for \$58, a pretended balance due him for teaching school. He was discharged on a technicality but was re-arrested for trying to obtain money under false pretense, and was held to answer, bail being fixed at \$150. He was unable to furnish the required security, and has gone to jail. This is the fellow who wrote Wagstaff's editorial denouncing Judge Woodruff of Curry County, and he is still sustaining the character he acquired in that and other transactions in good style.

LETTER LIST.—The following is the list of letters remaining in the Postoffice at Marshfield, March 1st: Thos. Hering, Addie Jones, S. Judkins, Andrew Johnson, due 10 cts.; Marg. A. Krang, E. Mortimer, Boat Builder Mackey, Mary E. Mohr, J. B. Moran, Chas. B. Smith, Selph, W. Stranberg, William Strong, due 10 cts.; John Selin, Richard Vincent, 2; Jay Wiggins, Berdie West, Willie Webster, held for postage.

A. NASHBURG, P. M.

FRUIT TREES.—C. Howe, the Dora nurseryman, will be on the Bay next week to fill orders for trees. It is now a good time to put out trees, and he hopes to meet all his customers ready to take the trees off his hands without delay.

THE "CELES."—We are informed by Capt. Reed of Norway that the steamer *Ceres* is ready to receive her machinery which has late been ordered from San Francisco. He expects to have the boat ready for duty by the 1st of April.

G. A. BENNETT, who has been absent in the interior some months past, arrived on the bay last week, he looks as though he had been well treated abroad.

WEDNES BROS. have been painting and refitting the interior of the Central Hotel but it doesn't add a cent to the price of board. Give them a call.

We call the attention of road supervisors to a communication from Judge Nosler, on the subject of road work, appearing in another column.

Deeply Injured.

The "leading editorial" of the *News* of this week consists of what might be mistaken for a malicious and unwarranted attack upon the County Court of Curry County, and particularly upon the County Judge. But such is not the character of the article; it is the rising of a great soul, stung to frenzy by a deep and cruel injury, an expression of just resentment for a terrible outrage. The writer of that article has wrongs at the hands of the Curry County Court that would stir a fever in the blood of age, and make an infant's sinew strong as steel. The only wonder is that more forcible means of redress are not resorted to by the injured party, and should he proceed with the threatened "investigation" he will certainly have the sympathy of a large circle of friends.

The injury which has called forth this article from the *News*, consists in an order made by the Curry County Court whereby the *Coast Mail* was designated to do certain printing for the county, and to that extent became the "official paper" for said county. To add to the enormity of this offense, it was done without the knowledge or consent of the *News* man. It appears that the *News* has a claim of some kind upon all things of this character (probably a right of discovery) and therefore this just rage now exhibited. If the injured party, by this high-handed measure, does not annihilate all who had a hand in it, he will be entitled to great credit for leniency and forbearance.

COQUILLE ITEMS.

Drs. Steele and Angell have gone to Sixes river to examine a Mrs. Kate Wilson, whom it is said is insane.

The schooner *Free Trade* was towed out on the 21st of February, and the *Moac* on the 23d. They are both expected back.

Miss Nannie Ransome of Myrtle Point, who has been attending school here has been quite sick for the past few days, but is now convalescent.

At the annual school meeting at this place, the following officers were elected: G. Meld, re-elected, Director; W. P. Wright, Director to fill vacancy caused by resignation of J. Nasburg; R. E. Buck, Clerk.

A report came up on the steamer today, to the effect that the dead body of W. A. Scott ("Hunter Scott") of Port Orford, Curry county, was found on the beach below Lewis' place.

The question is frequently asked, "When and where will the Republican County Convention meet?"

Another Ticket.

COQUILLE CITY, March 2, 1880. MR. EDITOR.—I would suggest the following candidates for county officers on the Republican ticket:

State Senator, B. B. Jones; Representative, Wm. Morris; County Clerk, Alex. Stauff; Sheriff, Bob Simpson; Chas. Olive or Joe Gilbert; County Treasurer, David Morse, Jr.; County Commissioners, S. Rogers and Dan Giles; Assessor, D. Draw, or L. Herlocker; School Superintendent, L. H. Atkinson; Surveyor, J. J. Clinkenbeard; Coroner, Dr. Steele.

I am a Republican of the old school and I would have at the head of my ticket the name of J. G. Blaine, for President.

MENROE'S drug-store sports a new sign; Temple was the artist.

W. Elliott has opened a blacksmith shop on Nasburg's wharf.

The *Juno* makes two trips to Empire daily morning and evening.

The health of Mrs. Senator Grover is reported to be improving.

SShow about the depth of three inches, fell here Tuesday evening.

Wm. REICHERT has been repainting his saloon in Empire and everybody goes there now for beer.

WORK on the sewers at Empire City has been suspended during the week in consequence of bad weather.

REV. R. YEOMANS will preach in Empire City, next Sunday morning, and at Marshfield in the evening.

EMPIRE'S term of public school, taught by Mr. Welch, expired on Thursday last.

A PRIVATE school, we understand, is to be opened in this place about the 1st of April, by Miss Lavelle Clinkenbeard.

It is announced that Jerry Huntly is mentioned as a candidate for County Judge by the Democrats of Curry county. The Democratic party could not probably do better than to nominate him.

H. P. WHITNEY is keeping up his stock of fresh meat to the best possible standard, notwithstanding the unusual severity of the winter. He drove some fine cattle from down the coast this week.

MR. M. MALABEKY has opened a candy store in the room adjoining the Pioneer Saloon on Front Street. As Mr. Malabeky is disqualified from performing active labor, we bespeak for him a liberal patronage in the line which he has chosen as a mean of livelihood.

CORRESPONDENCE.

COQUILLE CITY, Or., March 3d, 1880. ED. MAIL: Since the late storm I have frequently been asked the question by road supervisors: "Can we, under the present road law, make double assessment of road labor in our respective districts, in order to open the roads blockaded by fallen timber?" In answer to the above interrogatories I need only refer to Sections 28 & 31 Road Laws of Oregon which in my opinion gives road supervisors full power and authority to cause the roads in their respective districts to be put in good repair; and I think where roads have been once opened and traveled, it makes it obligatory upon supervisors to open the same, and in case of failure to do so, the supervisor is liable to indictment by the Grand Jury.

Sec. 28 says if the labor in his district, assessed according to Sect. 22, that is, two days work and for each \$1,000 assessed for State and for that purpose, then he shall have county purposes; is not sufficient authority to assess and call out etc. We are all more or less interested in having good roads in the county, and no good citizen would object to double assessment if it is made uniform and equal. I would therefore recommend, under the present circumstances, and taking into consideration the condition of the roads throughout the county, that supervisors adopt the double assessment plan the present year as the present assessment is inadequate in many districts to open the roads for travel; by so doing we will have better roads than we ever had, better markets and enhanced value of our property, and we will scarcely miss the time. Let us have roads.

J. H. Nosler, Co. Judge.

Newspapers.

Our great progress in journalism is shown by the fact that in 1875 there were in the United States less than forty newspapers and periodicals, whose aggregate issue for that year comprised 1,200,000 copies; now the United States publishes over 600 daily newspapers, more than 4,000 weeklies, and about 600 monthly publications; of the dailies that existed in 1870, about 800,000,000 copies were struck off that year of the weeklies, about 600,000,000; and of other serial publications, about 100,000,000, amounting in all to 1,500,000,000 copies. And to sum the matter up yet more forcibly, it must be stated that the United States publishes newspapers, with greater combined circulation, than all the other countries of the world can boast of having. The oldest paper of uninterrupted publication in this country is the *Harvard Courant*, which has already attained the hoary age of 116 years. In regard to its last birthday it plaintively says: "We believe that, with the already announced death of a New Hampshire paper, recently, at the age of 116, we are left in a condition of absolute isolation. The last of our early contemporaries is gone."—*Ex. Rep.*

Presidential Candidates.

The *New York World* expressed doubt as to Mr. Tilden's being a candidate, whereupon the *Sea* replies: We can answer the *World*. Mr. Tilden is a candidate.

Mr. Seymour is a candidate. M. Bayard is a candidate. Mr. Thurman is a candidate. Mr. Samuel J. Randall is a candidate. Gen. Hancock is a candidate. Gen. John M. Palmer is a candidate. David Davis is a candidate. Sanford E. Church is a candidate. Stephen J. Field is a candidate. Elihu B. Washburne is a candidate. Roscoe Conkling is a candidate. Wm. M. Evans is a candidate. John Sherman is a candidate. James G. Blaine is a candidate. Mr. Hugh J. Jewett is a candidate. Gen. Grant is a candidate.

Of course we know nothing in particular about Mr. Tilden's candidacy; but we know that the rule, once a candidate always a candidate, has never had an exception.

As exchange says: The infernal brutality and disgusting coarseness of the Mormon religion were fairly exhibited at a Salt Lake funeral last Sunday. John Taylor, the President of the church, preached the sermon over the remains of a young man who had left the church, but whose mother and sisters are still members. The latter were present when Taylor said that "he died a drunkard, and will fill a drunkard's grave. He has gone to hell, and that is where he deserves to go." The poor mother and sisters, believing in a spiritual power of the wretch who uttered the above language, were overcome with anguish and carried fainting from the church.

QUERY.—If the snow on the summit between here and Roseburg was seven feet in depth before the storm of the present week, what is it now?

SCHOOL MEETING.—At the annual school meeting held last Monday evening, Wm. Hall was re-elected director and G. Webster clerk.

Railroad Operations.

All eyes are turned in expectancy toward the railroad operations in Eastern Oregon and Washington. I have frequently been asked the question by road supervisors: "Can we, under the present road law, make double assessment of road labor in our respective districts, in order to open the roads blockaded by fallen timber?" In answer to the above interrogatories I need only refer to Sections 28 & 31 Road Laws of Oregon which in my opinion gives road supervisors full power and authority to cause the roads in their respective districts to be put in good repair; and I think where roads have been once opened and traveled, it makes it obligatory upon supervisors to open the same, and in case of failure to do so, the supervisor is liable to indictment by the Grand Jury.

The Canal.

A dispatch of the 24th says: M. De Lesepe and some of his engineers arrived to-day from Panama. The canal route has been thoroughly studied, its difficulties investigated and practical plans laid for their successful treatment. The prejudices in the minds of some of the members of the commission have been removed as to the practicability of a tide level canal. The whole work, including every eventuality, is set down to cost \$43,000,000 francs or \$158,000,000. Several members of the commission believe that the entire enterprise will not involve an outlay of more than \$150,000,000. Time allowed for the work, eight years.

Sober Men Required.

The chief engineer of the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company has notified the Superintendent of construction that he must discharge from his employ any man who carries liquor to the workshop or into his camp. As a further precaution, that the failure of gang foremen to report any cases of disobedience of this order will be regarded as sufficient cause for their dismissal. The reason for this stringent order is that none but careful and sober men should be employed, and there is no reasonable man that will think this order to severe.—*Exchange.*

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES.

ALBANY, Feb. 25.—A fire to-night destroyed the Delevan block. The loss is estimated at over \$1,000,000.

HARRISBURG, Feb. 25.—John Wallace, a negro barber at Mount Joy, yesterday fatally shot his wife and slightly wounded his son, aged 15 years. Cause, jealousy.

ATLANTA, Feb. 25.—Herbert Gallagher, who murdered a school teacher named Wilson near Penryn, some months since, was to-day found guilty of murder in the first degree, the jury affixing the penalty of imprisonment for life.

MARION, O., Feb. 25.—An unprovoked murder occurred last evening. Enoch Young had a fight with two boys in a saloon and was badly punished. He left, threatening vengeance and soon returned with a knife and stabbed twice Israel Bensley, who was not concerned in the fight, instantly killing him.

The labor agitation in California is attracting attention in the East, and a late dispatch says that the *New York Herald* has a vigorous article on the threatened trouble in San Francisco, wherein Killoch and the sand lot gousters are handled without gloss. The writer takes the ground that the President has the right to interfere immediately, even without the consent of California to enforce national treaty obligations. The article closes thus: "Violation of treaty by California is an act of rebellion against Federal authority and should be vigorously put down like any other rebellion. If local powers refuse or neglect to afford protection, it is the duty of the President to supply it, and all reasonable citizens will rejoice to see the sand lot demagogues taught a needed lesson."

New York Pronounces for Grant.

The *New York Republican* Convention met at Utica on the 25th inst. The session was somewhat stormy, and ended in pledging the *New York* Delegation for Grant by a vote of 217 to 180. The following persons were named as delegates at large to the National Convention: Roscoe Conkling, Alonzo B. Cornell, C. A. Arthur and James D. Warren.

WE ARE informed that Owen Peigham whose disappearance from Empire last week gave rise to the fear that he had committed suicide, has turned up a county charge at Coquille City.

MR. LANG, the Eastern Oregon cattle king, has purchased at least 40,000 head of cattle in Utah county, which he will drive east in the early summer.

DR. CAMPBELL who has been practicing in Roseburg for some time past has gone East, it is said, to apply for a position in the army.

Subscriptions for the Mail.

A Distressing Picture.

A correspondent, writing of the condition of the people in Galway county, Ireland, uses the following language: "It is a terrible state of affairs. Fifty families here eke out a miserable existence. Their houses are small heaps of dirty stones, their land is rock and soft bog, and hunger and want are everywhere apparent. The people go naked and without food. Many are slowly starving to death. Such scenes of appalling destitution I never before witnessed. Every step we took brought before our view a new and more fearful picture of destitution and suffering. The more we saw, the more certain did death from starvation appear inevitably to be the fate of every man, woman and child in the island. Gaunt, thin and pale were the faces of men who were naturally of herculean build, and the features of the women and children were overspread by the ghastly palor of hunger. In many of the cabins children crouched shivering and almost naked around the fire, and when I entered they sprang behind their mother, whose single garment, a thin dress, was but the slightest protection against the wind which blew through the broken roof. On the fire was the dinner, a pot of brown-green sea weed. It is certain that unless they are well cared for dozens will die of starvation."

Boston and her People.

This is the way the *Cincinnati Times* summarizes Boston: There is no place in the country where so much time is spent in study as in Boston. It is an old city, as cities go in this country, and it has accumulated wealth. Men have leisure, and women, too, for study and reflection. They have a splendid public library, and the Athenaeum Library. They have a Music Hall, and a grand organ, and Mr. Joseph Cook lectures to them once a week de omnibus rebus et quibusdam aliis. Their young men have the look of scholars. They give breakfasts once in a while to Dr. Holmes, and the Doctor writes pleasant stanzas in which the wisdom of age is finely mixed with the vivacity of youth. The *Atlantic* is still printed there, though the *North American Review*, since it took to discussing sturdy problems, has gone to New York. The genial Mr. Higginson vibrates between Boston and New York, exuding sweetness and light and culture. But, after all, the virility of the Bostonian is called in question, and by a question which every good Bostonian is taught to respect and read. "We have cultivated our minds so much that they have grown stale"—this is the complaint.

Revenue of the United States.

It is announced that it is thought at the treasury department that the total receipts from customs this month will be nearly \$15,000,000, and from internal revenue about \$6,000,000. Taking this as a basis, it is estimated that the total customs receipts of the government, for the fiscal year ending June 30th next will be about \$138,000,000, and from internal revenue, \$117,000,000, thus making a total income to the Government, including receipts from miscellaneous sources, of about \$300,000,000. It is calculated at the department that the total expenditures, including the sinking fund and interest on the public debt, will foot up between \$275,000,000, and \$278,000,000. This would leave a profit to the government of about \$25,000,000.

A DISPATCH from Battle Mountain, Nevada, states that an organization called the Nevada Northern Railway Company has been effected, the object of which is to build a railroad from Battle Mountain to Oregon and Idaho. The proposed route of this railway lies through some of the richest mining districts and best agricultural lands of the country. Robert L. S. Hall is President, and Liman Bridges chief engineer of the company. Surveys of the route will be commenced at once.

Supt. Clark announces that the U. P. railroad will immediately commence a broad gauge road from Cheyenne to Yellowstone National Park, with a Deadwood branch. Another road will be built from Echo to Park City, Utah. It will be completed by August.

An exchange says managers of the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company have put in force a good sanitary regulation. They deduct fifty cents per month from each man's pay, and that fund goes to equip a hospital and pay services of an attendant surgeon.

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DR. CAMPBELL who has been practicing in Roseburg for some time past has gone East, it is said, to apply for a position in the army.

A Texas and Mexican Railway.

A late dispatch says the House committee on railways and canals has agreed to report favorably on the bill authorizing the Secretary of war to contract with the San Antonio and Mexican Border Railroad Company for the immediate construction of a railroad from San Antonio to a point on the Rio Grande, at or near the town of Aledo, for the purpose of establishing a postal and military highway from the United States military headquarters at San Antonio, Texas, to the Mexican border. The bill provides that the Secretary of the treasury, for and in the name of the United States, shall endorse and guarantee the bonds of the company to the extent of \$15,000 per mile of the whole road to be constructed, but not exceeding a total issue of \$2,400,000, the bonds to be made payable to the United States. The entire line from San Antonio to the Rio Grande shall be completed within two years from the signing of the contract with the Government; that the Government shall have the preference in the matter of service, and the right to withhold payment therefor until all advances of money to the company are repaid, the amounts earned by the company for transport of supplies, etc., for the Government, and for the carrying of mails, to be credited to the company, and no money to be paid out of the treasury for service until the whole amount guaranteed for the company shall have been paid.

How Long Animals Live.

The average age of cats is fifteen years; of squirrels and hares, seven to eight years; rabbits, seven; a bear rarely exceeds twenty years; a dog lives twenty years, a wolf twenty years, a fox, fourteen to sixteen; lions are long lived, the one known by the name of Pompey, living to the age of seventy. Elephants have been known to live to the great age of 400 years. When Alexander the Great had conquered Porthus, King of India, he took a great elephant which had fought valiantly for the king, and named him Ajax, dedicating him to the sun, and letting him go with this inscription, "Alexander, son of Jupiter, dedicated Ajax to the sun." The elephant was found with this inscription 250 years after. Pigs have been known to live to the age of twenty; and the rhinoceros to twenty-nine; a horse has been known to the age of sixty-two, but averages twenty-five to thirty; camels sometimes live to the age of 100; stags are very long lived; sheep seldom exceed the age of ten; cows live about fifteen years. Cuvier considers it probable that whales sometimes live 1,000 years. The dolphin and porpoise attain the age of thirty; an eagle died at Vienna at the age of 104; ravens frequently reach the age of 100; swans have been known to live 300 years. Mr. Malerton has the skeleton of a swan that attained the age of 200 years. Pelicans are long lived. A tortoise has been known to live to the age of 107 years.

A Woman's College.

The Board of Trustees of the Willamette University have taken the preliminary steps to establish a new department in that institution, to be known as "The Woman's College" of the University. A Committee has been appointed consisting of Chas. E. Lambert, E. J. Northrup, R. P. Boise, J. H. Rook and W. H. Odell; which committee shall hereafter be annually appointed at the yearly meeting of the Board of Trustees, and if they succeed in raising the funds necessary for the formation of said department and the maintenance for the space of three years from Sept. 1st 1880, outside of the present source of income of the University, i. e. the property, and tuition fees of the Academy and College of Liberal Arts; the College is to be established. The following are among the duties of the committee in organizing this department:

1st. To provide a course of social, moral and art culture for the young woman in attendance upon the Academy and College of Liberal Arts of the University.

2nd. To provide suitable persons to have charge of the different branches of the above work, viz: a lady Dean or Principal, a Prof. of the Art Department and a Prof. of Music.

3d. To provide a suitable building for the residence of such students of the Academy and College as may not be residents.

The enterprise is one well worthy of success, and we hope the amount required to put this new department in operation may be readily secured.

Wm. REID, Donald Macleay and Ellis G. Hughes of Portland, have incorporated the "Oregon Railway Company, Limited," for the construction of a railroad from Portland to a point at or near the north end of Goose Lake, the route to be across the Cascade Mountains somewhere near the middle fork of the Willamette. The capital stock is \$2,000,000, and the principal office is at Portland. Mr. D. H. Stearns has been appointed to locate the route.

THE Prince of Wales belongs to every secret society in England except the Good Templars.

Subscriptions for the Mail.

Survey of the Umpqua.

Lieutenant Habersham has made his report of the survey of the Umpqua river with a view to improvement, and it appears that the only improvement deemed practicable is the removal of three bars between Gardner and Scottsburg. We print the following extracts from the report: Umpqua Bay from its entrance to its head, is eight miles long, and 3/4 to 1/2 miles wide. On portions of both sides marshes, intersected by tidal sloughs, extend to the hills. These lands cover about 1,800 acres, which, when reclaimed by diking, will be valuable. The bay is perfectly landlocked, affording a sheltered anchorage of 1,500 acres, with depths ranging from 14 to 30 feet in low tide.

It is the deepest just below Gardner. The entrance to Umpqua Bay presents the same principal features and general outline as the sea. Rugged hills, covered with fir timber on the south; a long line of sand-spits strewn with drift on the north; the channel running westward to the bar, which lies 1/2 mile outside of the general shore line. No change of importance is perceptible in the form and position of the bar, as shown by the U. S. Coast Survey of 1852.

By the courtesy of Captain Hill, of the tug *Fearless*, I was enabled to make soundings across the bar, and found 13 feet least depth at low tide. The distance between the 18-200 feet and the width of the channel 300 feet at its narrowest point. Inside, on the south side of the channel near the second headland, there is a dangerous rock, shown on the map, a washout at low-water. On this a small wooden buoy, not easily visible to those unacquainted with its exact position, has been placed. Two buoys are needed, one on the bar, the other inside, near Winchester Head, the promontory on the south side of the entrance. Sailing vessels provided with pilots who know the bar can enter in favorable weather. Generally the outward passage should not be attempted without a tug.

This survey was requested by the citizens of Scottsburg for the purpose of ascertaining the feasibility and cost of removing the obstructions to navigation between that point and Gardner. These consist of three bars, existing at Brandy Island, Echo Island, and the mouth of Deane's Creek, and of a number of rocks in the channel just below the steamboat landing at Scottsburg. They are shown in detail on the accompanying map, together with the works considered necessary for their removal. These bars have been formed recently, as within a few years schooners drawing 7 1/2 feet ascended to within a mile of Scottsburg. They are composed of sand, mud and gravel overlying rock, with a ruling depth of 2 1/2, to 3 feet at mean low tide. The materials required in building jetties to increase the scour are found in abundance in the vicinity. In the absence of a pile driver, the jetties may be built of fascines and gravel, the latter confined in sacks (a plan successfully employed in building dams on the Upper Willamette), with cribs filled with stone and ripped at their extremities. The estimated cost of improving the three bars is as follows:

At Brandy Island, 800 feet of jetty;	
at Echo Island 1,100 feet of jetty;	
Deane's Creek, 1,200 feet of jetty.	
Total length, 3,100 feet @ \$2 50	
per foot - - - - -	\$ 7,750
3 cribs, 15x10x6 feet, \$500 each.	1,500
Removal of 85 cubic yards of rock @ \$10. - - - - -	850
Engineering and contingent expenses, 10 per cent - - -	1,010
Total cost of work - - - - -	\$11,110

The first town of Scottsburg was built one mile below the present one, and was carried away by the disastrous flood of 1841, and afterwards built on its present site. It was formerly the principal depot of supplies brought from San Francisco for the mining districts of Southern Oregon. Since the establishment of communication by rail and stage between Portland and San Francisco it has declined, and this section of the country being thinly settled.

The soil of the Umpqua valley is better adapted to grazing than agriculture; and its products, principally wool and hides are shipped by rail to Portland. The improvement of the river below Scottsburg would benefit only the local trade, which at present is considerable. At the same time it is advisable to move the rocks from the vicinity of Scottsburg as they are dangerous; and if the shoaling on the bars, which has been progressing for several years past, continues, it will be necessary to improve them in order to keep open the only route through this section of the State which is transitable at all seasons of the year.

THE *Standard* says an incendiary attempt to destroy the West Union school house in Washington county, was made last Monday. The parties who made the attempt carried out of the building all the books and piled them carefully away. Suspicion as to the perpetrators is very strong, and the next grand jury will probably get after them.