

A REMINISCENCE.

Editors Democrat:

A reminiscence of the Santiam district, of "The Forks," of "Canada," recalls old Johnny Crabtree, Peter Blyue and others. But "Uncle Johnny Crabtree," as he was affectionately and familiarly called, is foremost in order. I met him first in 1864, on a Saturday, when there was a democratic meeting in Scio, at which Judge Powell of Albany and James O'Meara of Eugene City discussed the excited political situation, before a large assemblage. Uncle Johnny Crabtree was an enthusiastic democrat of the strictest sect, an ardent advocate of state rights, a votary of Jefferson, he was a native of Virginia, and had emigrated to Oregon in the early period. After the meeting was over he invited me to ride with him to his home, a half dozen miles away, and there was that to the man that caused me to accept the cordial invitation. I noticed that he had a fine riding horse; it evidenced his liking for good stock. On the way he communicated to me the treat in store when we should reach his home and I could see his "nice little bunch of a woman" who was his wife. They married in "Ole Virginny," he a widower, the father of nine children, she a widow, the mother of nine children. They lived matrimonially, and not long afterwards started overland to Oregon. Their union was blessed in time with two children of their own. He was of low stature, tough fibre and wiry frame, no superfluous flesh, strong bone and sinewy conformation and his spirit was alert and his resolution masterful. A stronger power physically might master him; but all the powers of all the potencies could never bend that determination of his. His body was not yielding; his nerve and pluck were as steel and adamant. Dynamite could blow him into atoms, but no power of earth could bring or force Uncle Johnny Crabtree to a conclusion to which he refused to assent. He weighed less than one hundred pounds, but every pound was just where it did the most good. As he told me of his "nice little bunch of a woman," I surmised the mother of twenty children was a contemplation which involved allowance for appearance. We rode and I awaited. We had left Scio a little before sundown. It was early in spring. We reached the Crabtree farmhouse in the late twilight. It was a capacious and comfortable home—not of fancy architecture or gingerbread adornment; but it was all there, and every thing cosy and sunny. He soon made me acquainted with his "nice little bunch of a woman." Lord bless me, the lady to whom I was introduced as Mrs Crabtree, was taller than he or I, and very stout. Uncle Johnny confided the important secret to me that night that the last time they were in Albany down at Crawford's mill, she weighed two hundred and forty-three pounds! A nice bunch of a woman, truly. Of the strain "Gather them in, gather them in," how difficult the task for the ordinary exporter or preacher. Old Joab Powell would have been hustled to his hair line of brow in the impossible endeavor. But that "nice little bunch of a woman" was a jewel of her sex, a household treasure and recompensing joy for all of lifetime. She spun, she weaved, she knitted all the socks, wove all the woollens, and made the garments for all the family. She was boss and servant, all in one, of the kitchen. If there was anything in the internal economy and care of that sunny home of the Crabtrees to which she did not personally attend, I didn't see it. She was not ubiquitous, but she was there every time, at the moment somebody was wanted. She was a "nice little bunch of a woman," but it rejoiced me that "Uncle Johnny" so called her and left not the description to me. More hospitable keeping has not been my lot. A supper of gratifying quality and quantity, a night of comforting rest, a breakfast to be remembered, and the hearty expressions of "Uncle Johnny," his "nice little bunch of a woman," and of "the boys," as I departed in the morning, are pleasant recollections of my visit to "The Forks" in Canada, and to the Crabtree home.

LONG AGO.

Mathews & Washburn's Line of stoves and ranges, to bake They take the cake, why The best to buy, no lie, Its boss on pie or fry, Buy one and try, oh my, Before you die and get into the sky.

BUSINESS CHANGE.—Sui Ti, for a long time with San Wa, a heap good man who saves the laundry business, has bought out Lee's laundry near the Revere House, and will hereafter run it. Satisfaction guaranteed.

NEW BLACKSMITH SHOP.—G. W. Willis has just completed, his blacksmith shop at the corner of Second and Railroad streets where all kinds of iron and wood work can be had and done in first class order. Bring on your plows, wagons, etc., etc. for repair.

A NASAI INJECTOR free with each bottle of Shloh's Catarrh Remedy. Price 50 cents. Foshay & Mason, agents.

WILL YOU SUFFER with Dyspepsia and Liver Complaint? Shloh's Vitalizer is guaranteed to cure you.

The Salem Journal challenges the Democrat to point to a single word uttered by Harrison on the silver question in conflict with the platform upon which he was elected. Well there was practically nothing in the platform upon which he was elected concerning silver, hence he could not stultify himself by going back on it. All that the republican party said, in its national platform in 1888 on the silver question was: "The republican party is in favor of the use of both gold and silver as money" which means nothing. The democrats said nothing. Nevertheless, that Harrison is opposed to the free coinage of silver will not be questioned by any one in the country but the Journal. We repeat what we said before, that republicans who favor free coinage, (and the woods are full of them in the northwest and in the Pacific states), may just as well prepare to fall into line for a gold bug for president, for the party will nominate no other kind of a man.

HOLMES BUSINESS COLLEGE, of Portland Or., will open Sept. 1st. J. A. Wesco, the leading penman of the coast, has become a partner in this school and will make it the leading business college. Send for a catalogue.

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

FOR SALE—Two fresh milk cows. Inquire of W W Crawford, Tallman.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE—I will sell cheap for cash, or exchange for a good gun, a good White Sewing Machine. Call at the Russ house. J. H. HOWARD.

TREASURER'S NOTICE.—In pursuance of an order of county court, holders of county warrants are requested to present the same to me for payment. Interest will cease after March 6, 1891. W. E. CURL, County Treasurer.

TO RENT.—A store room 22x90 feet suitable for business; centrally located. For particulars call at the DEMOCRAT office or on Jas V Pipe.

MONEY TO LOAN.—In small and large amounts, from six months to five years, on good Albany and Linn county real estate. Call on or address W E McPherson, First St., Albany, Or.

HORSES FOR SALE.—One sorrel horse, 9 years old, weight 1400. One grey horse, 8 years old, weight 1100. Also wagon, hack harness, etc. Will sell for cash or exchange for other property. Call at store opposite Russ house. R. A. FRY.

NOTICE.

TO THE TAX-PAYERS OF LINN county The delinquent tax roll must be returned to the clerk, April 1st 1891. All persons owing taxes are hereby notified to make payment immediately, for if taxes are not paid by that date they will be delinquent, and I will be compelled to levy and sell property to collect the same, as the tax must be collected. Dated March 6, 1891.

M. SCOTT, Sheriff and Tax Collector.

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Columbia Fire & Marine Ins. Company, of Portland, Or. Assets, \$200,872.00. This is one of Oregon's best companies.

L. E. BLAIN'S COLUMN.

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We have many fine makes including



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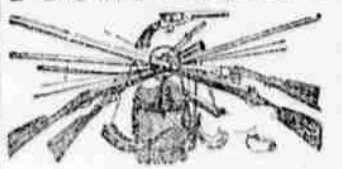
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ANNUAL MEETING.—Notice is here by given that the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Albany Building Association will be held at the office of the Albany Electric Light Co., on Broadway street, in Albany, on Monday, March 16, 1891, at 7:30 p. m., for the election of directors, and such other business as may come before the meeting. Dated Feb 20, 1891. N H ALLEN, Secretary. W C TWEEDALE, President.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.—Contractors and builders desiring to bid on the construction of the new United Presbyterian church building, to be erected at the site of the old building, will find the plans and specifications for the same, at the store of Stewart & Sox. The date of opening bids will be announced hereafter.

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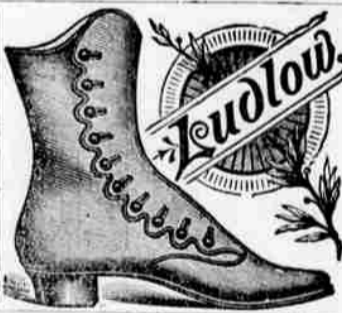
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