

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE

See market reports on second page. Additional correspondence on second page.

On Monday last fell the first show of the season.

But little interest was taken in the city election on Monday last.

B. M. Donnan and wife visited Sweet Home relatives during Christmas week.

Dr. T. A. Winter has returned from Ashland and will remain in Lebanon for some time.

We were pleased to meet so many of the "Old Boys" at the camp-fire on Saturday evening last.

It is safe to predict that our marshal-elect will not institute a dozen street brawls where he will quell one.

A carrier pigeon made the trip by wing from Eugene to Halsey, thirty-two miles this week, in thirty-five minutes.

Z. B. Moss, of Brush Creek, gave us a call last week. Mr. Moss represents one of the very productive communities of "Old Linns."

Since our last issue a number of casualties have taken place, among which was a fire in our sister town, Albany, which destroyed four business houses and injured the Revere house.

Mr. O. S. Hibbard, a first-class mechanic, has leased the blacksmith shop formerly owned by F. H. Roscoe, and will be pleased to accommodate customers with the best of work. Give him a call.

Mr. J. I. Matlock, of Brush Creek precinct, gave us a call Monday and renewed his subscription to the Express. Mr. Matlock owns a very nice place, and last year completed a very neat house.

The three men in one, viz: City-Attorney-Marshall-and Recorder, got themselves together on Monday last, "and-ah," took a tumble-on to the shelf. It was a bad day for such a combination-ah.

A railway accident occurred on the O. & C. road a few days ago, near Riddle, in which we regret to learn that Sunday VanHaren, an engineer of our acquaintance lost his life. A fireman named Roberts was also killed.

The Christmas ladder at Union hall on Christmas Eve was a very successful affair in the way of magnificent presents, etc. The hall was crowded to its utmost capacity, and Santa Clause made nearly all happy in the distribution of gifts.

Mrs. J. M. Ralston is slowly recovering from the serious burns received in her attempt to rescue her children from the terrible fire which befell them last Saturday evening. It is to be hoped that no trace of the terrible event will be left upon her face.

J. H. Wirt, agent for O. Dickinson, nurseryman, of Salem, gave us a call Tuesday. Mr. Wirt is selling lots of fruit trees and says that the farmers of this valley are becoming alive to the importance of fruit culture. Especially is this to be observed in Linn county.

On and after Monday, January 2, 1888, the time of leaving of the Oregon Pacific boats has been changed as follows: Leaves Corvallis, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 o'clock; leaves Buena Vista at 1:20; leaves Independence at 3; arrives in Salem at 4:35, p. m.

J. H. McNamee, the Commissioner appointed by the Government to investigate wagon roads built by national aid, writes that the shorthand notes of the dead stenographer, J. C. Richardson, have been deciphered, and that it will not be necessary to go over the work.

From the San Francisco Examiner it is learned that the Oregon Development Company has purchased in the east a new, first-class iron ship to take the place of the stranded Yaquina City, which will be soon as possible be but on their line between San Francisco and Yaquina bay.

The proprietors of Union hall have seated it with chairs. We are informed, as the hall is completed, there will be a musical entertainment given in it during this month. It is in every way a very neat room and Mr. Donnan and Andrews & Hinkleman should be accorded their credit due such enterprise.

The wreck of the stranded steamer Yaquina City, has been sold to Capt. Chas. Lutchins, of San Francisco, for \$8,000. The sale is said to have resulted in a bargain for the purchaser, as each of the two boilers cost \$12,000, and are in good condition, while the shaft, which was comparatively new, cost over \$9,000.

In the year 1888 there will be 366 days and 53 Sundays. The Fourth of July will fall on Wednesday and Christmas on Tuesday. In the year 1889 there will be three eclipses of the moon. A total eclipse of the moon July 23d, will be visible the middle of the eclipse occurring at 9:20, p. m.

MARRIED.—At the residence of Mr. Brown, in Lebanon, December 27, 1887, by Rev. Geo. W. Gibney, Mr. Andy Vail and Miss Elva Taft.

BORN.—In Lebanon, on December 29, 1887, to the wife of G. W. Smith, a son. It is useless to add that the "Squire" is a very happy father. We extend our hearty congratulations.

WALKING MATCH.—At Union hall, this (Friday) evening, will commence a 24-hour walking match. There will be ten contestants, and no doubt much interest will be taken in the affair.

CITY ELECTION.—The following are the officers-elect for the ensuing year: President of the council—J. A. Beard. Councilmen—J. V. Keebler, C. A. Hackleman, C. H. Harmon, G. T. Cotton, Marshall—Geo. Buhl. Recorder—Dr. J. H. P. Hope. Treasurer—M. E. Hearn.

OAK CREEK BRIDGE.—The bridge across Oak Creek, south of town, has long since been, and still is impassable. Universal complaint is raised in the vicinity, and justly, too, at this neglect. The stream will certainly be dangerous to ford at times in the near future. N. B. supervisor.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE LAST STAGE.—The last trip of the stages on the line between Ashland and Siskiyou was made Friday, says the Ashland Tidings, and the veteran driver, Dan Cawley, who drove the first stage over the Siskiyou, claimed the honor of coming into Ashland with the last coach. The other drivers of the trip were Messrs. A. Smith, Charles Laird and Frank Hovey. The first stage was run between Yreka and Jacksonsville, in 1850, making three trips per week. The California Stage Company (Geo. Thomas, Supt.), were its proprietors, and Dan Cawley was its first driver. For a year after the stage started the mail was carried on horseback by other parties, and arrived at Jacksonsville only once every two weeks. In 1858 a daily stage was run through from Portland to Sacramento. In 1872 Barlow, Sanderson & Co. secured the mail contract on the route between the C. & O. and O. & C. railroads, Col. W. S. Stone assumed the superintendence of the line, with headquarters at Yreka. Col. Stone has had the management of the business during the past few months, and will wind up its affairs here. Dan Cawley has been riding at different times on the line, mostly south of Yreka of late years, and since March last has been one of the regular drivers coming into Ashland from the C. & O. railroad terminus. As the six-horse stagecoach, imposing in its day, crowded off the trail the saddle-horse and pack-mule conveyance, it in turn is driven off the Siskiyou route by the big engines and sumptuous palace sleeping cars of the Southern Pacific railroad. The trip over the mountains between California and Oregon will no longer be invested with the romantic flavor of exciting rides down the steep grades, stories and scenes of highway robbery, and views of grizzly bear tracks in the road.

OFFICERS ELECTED.—CAMP FIRE.—At a meeting on December 31, 1887, John F. Miller was elected, and A. R. the following officers were elected: Commander—G. W. Cruson. S. V. C.—Geo. Sylvester. Surgeon—S. V. C.—Wm. Peper. Quartermaster—Geo. Ross. Officer of the Guard—J. G. Easton. After the transaction of the above business, the members of the post filed up into Union hall where a large number of our citizens had gathered to enjoy with them the soldier's far famed dish—pork and beans and "hard tack." Comrade C. B. Montague was introduced and made some appropriate and pleasing remarks incident to army life. Comrades Cruson, Sylvester, Miller, and others sang army airs. Maud Eaton favored the audience with an appropriate recitation. The pork and beans were pronounced excellent, and from our army experience we should say the cooks were indeed an improvement over Uncle Sam's chief cooks who used to dish out to the boys one bean to a quart of soup. Verily, the fair quartermaster who provided for them now are more liberal with the rations. John F. Miller Post has started with encouraging prospects and we hope to see it prosper.

GOLDEN STAND PROSPERITY.—A few weeks since Miller named a Billings cannery to town and opened a shop, and met with the best of encouragement in business, but the scarlet hue which adorned his nose, clearly demonstrated that, though a good workman, the saloon keeper's till would never be blank for the want of the profits of his business, even if the hotel keeper should suffer, which he certainly did when Mr. Blank took his "goose" under his arm and quietly stole away, after a two-days' attempt in trying to "press" the matter. Verily, the fair quartermaster who provided for them now are more liberal with the rations. John F. Miller Post has started with encouraging prospects and we hope to see it prosper.

DEDICATION AND INSTALLATION.—On Thursday, December 27, 1887, Lebanon Lodge No. 44, A. F. & A. M., dedicated their magnificent new hall, and installed the officers-elect for the ensuing year. D. F. Mason, of Albany, past Grand Master, officiated and was very agreeable occasion it was. When the ceremonies were completed the Masons and invited guests repaired to Union hall, where a delicious banquet was served. Among those present we noticed quite a number from Albany and other places. The following are the officers installed: J. Wasson, W. M.; S. O. Wallace, S. W.; M. A. Miller, J. W.; J. M. Ralston, Treasurer; C. C. Hackleman, Secretary; R. C. Miller, Tyler; W. B. Donnan, S. D.; J. W. Burkhardt, J. D.

THE RECITAL.—On the evening of December 23, Miss Hela Gilbert gave a recital at the Santiam Academy which demonstrated that her pupils in music are rapidly advancing. Some of the performers who had received but eight lessons evinced the best of instruction, and the entire program, consisting of eighteen changes was admirably rendered. Miss Gilbert is a very efficient instructor and is making her department of the academy very desirable for those who attend this favorite institution.

CHANGES.—The following changes have been made recently at the Oregon state penitentiary at Salem: M. Wilkins, commissioner at the penitentiary, has received from Dr. Lane appointment for steward at the asylum, vice W. J. Irwin resigned. H. J. Ellis, chapel guard, takes Wilkin's vacant place. I. C. Dickey, captain of the guard, takes Ellis' place. Mr. Irwin and wife will probably go to Washington Territory.

DIED.—On Christmas day the remains of Mrs. Ella Bond, daughter of J. O. Roland, of this city, were deposited in the Lebanon cemetery. Mrs. Bond died at her home in Portland, of consumption, after a year's illness. She was born and raised in Lebanon, and was a lady of excellent virtues. She leaves a husband, three children and a host of friends to mourn her death.

REPAIR THE ROAD.—Why is not the road cross laid with the material on the ground on the Sodaville road in the skirts of town? Every business man in the town and every settler south of us are interested in this shameful piece of bottomless road.

FIRE AND DEATH.

The falling of a lamp at the residence of J. M. Ralston yesterday night, started a fire which destroyed the property of his only children—Johnnie and Mabel.

As the people of Lebanon were sitting down to their supper on New Year's Eve the loud clangor of the fire bell started them from their meal. Rushing hastily by the engine house it was learned that John M. Ralston's new and elegant residence was on fire. Manfully the few firemen present rushed their engine and hose cart to the burning dwelling, but their services were not needed as Mrs. Ralston, assisted by her immediate neighbors, had succeeded in extinguishing the flames before the arrival of the firemen and citizens. Mr. Ralston himself happened to be up town on an errand and reached home as quickly as possible only to learn from some one, first, that his wife was burned, then that Johnnie, his only son, was somewhat burned, and later that his little daughter, Mabel, was also badly injured.

The children were cared for by loving friends. Johnnie was carried to the house of Mrs. Ambler and Mabel to that of Mr. C. M. Talbot. Later Johnnie was carried to where his sister lay, with the mother fearfully burned about the face and hands also present, encouraging her children, later they were taken to their own home. Drs. Foley and Courtney were promptly at hand doing all that medical skill could do to alleviate their sufferings. From the first it was evident to the trained eyes of the medical men that little Mabel could not live, small hopes were entertained of Johnnie's recovery, while Mrs. Ralston, although fearfully injured about the face and hands, was not considered in an immediately dangerous condition.

The people generally remained watchful and at early dawn it was learned that little Mabel was released from her suffering at 2 o'clock, a. m. With a feeling of profound sadness the new year of 1888 came to the people of Lebanon. No "Happy New Year's" greetings were exchanged in our little city that bleak Sunday morning. Friend met friend with bowed head and whispered words expressing heartfelt sorrow for our good neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Ralston, whose beautiful and intelligent little daughter, Mabel, lay cold in death in the front parlor and their last remaining child, Johnnie, dying in the adjoining room, the result of a shocking and fearful accident.

It will be of melancholy interest to the hosts of friends of the stricken parents to know the particulars of this fearful calamity, and the facts given by a member of the family are substantially as follows:

On Saturday evening (New Year's Eve) the two children were taking their bath. The mother going into another room for a moment was startled by a loud scream from the children. The large lamp in the bath room from some unexplained cause, was upset or broken, the burning kerosene flaming to the ceiling, barred the children from the door by a wall of fire. The mother grasping intuitively the fearful peril to her loved boy and girl, called on them to get up and have as valiantly tried to subdue the flames by throwing blankets on the fire. Johnnie could have jumped to her through the flames sustaining, perhaps, but little injury, but little Mabel was fearful and somewhat hesitating and Johnnie would not leave the little sister to perish to save his own life. "You know papa," he afterward said, "I could have jumped to help her, but I would not do it unless Mabel was saved with me." The mother, not daring to linger for an instant in her efforts to rescue her dear ones, reached through the flames and, though her face and hands were fearfully burned, the noble and heroic woman succeeded in getting her loved children out of the burning bath-room, but not until the cruel, cruel fire had literally roasted their little bodies. Neither mother or children realized how badly they were hurt for a few moments and Mrs. Ralston assisted in extinguishing the flames before any serious damage was done to the main part of their new and beautiful residence. All this was the work of a very few minutes, and just as soon as the excited friends could, they placed the mother and children in their friends' houses, as before stated until the confusion and smoke subsided at their own.

Drs. Courtney and Foley were in attendance promptly. All that medical skill, assisted by loving and sympathizing friends, could do was done, but so far as the children were concerned it was evident that they were fatally injured.

Mabel, aged 8 years, died at 2 o'clock, New Year's morning, and Johnnie, aged 10 years, died the same evening at 7:30 o'clock.

Little Mabel asked her papa if she was going to die. He answered, "I hope not, my dear daughter." "Oh, papa!" she replied, "I'm so glad, I want to live for you and mama," but alas! even then she was sinking fast and soon passed peacefully away. Johnnie was then perfectly conscious and when told that his little sister was dead, he shed no tears saying he would soon see her in heaven. He sang a few lines of his own composing, the tenor of which showed his implicit trust in God and his undying love for his dear papa and mama. He rallied a little after this and soon asked his papa if he must die. His grief stricken father answered, "Yes, my darling boy." The little hero's lips quivered for a moment but no cry escaped him. In a few moments he calmly said, "Papa, you and mama must not cry for us. I will soon be in heaven with Mabel. You and mama must come to us there." Just as long as consciousness remained he spoke hopefully of his approaching end, his only solace being for the grief of his sorrowing parents. He was called calmly away at 7:30 o'clock in the evening, the watchers of whom the writer was one, being unaware of the exact moment of dissolution so peacefully was the great change made.

Side by side they lay in their beautiful caskets which were covered with rare flowers the loving, tribute of sympathy and friends. The classmates of the dear dead slowly marking by their candles, each depositing on either coffin

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George, the six year old son of Joseph Hume, who has been suffering from diphtheria, is slowly recovering, and although very weak, is past danger.

It is the only case of the dread disease that has occurred in this locality during this winter.

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DIED.

At his residence, three miles south of Brownsville, on January 2, 1888, John W. Tyser, aged 49 years. The deceased was a member of Brownsville Lodge No. 36, A. F. & A. M., also of the Safety Lodge No. 13, A. O. U. W., of Albany. Death has taken from us a brother, the memory of whose sterling qualities will long be treasured not only by those who more mourn for a departed relative, not only by the bereaved widow and eight fatherless children, but by the neighbors and associates of a man of whom it can be said, he had not a single enemy. Peace be to him. May his way be cast in pleasanter paths where the pain and trials of this life can not assail him.

CHRISTMAS TREE.

Under the management of the Christmas Tree committee, all arrangements for the merry making which took place at the North Brownsville City Hall, on the evening of December 24th, had been most ably conducted, the hall was tastefully decorated, appropriate mottoes in evergreens adorning the walls, on either side of the stage were tall fir, drooping beneath their weight of costly and beautiful presents. Perhaps never before has a more extensive display been made of plush goods comprising, dresses, toilet and ornamental cases, most noticeable of these was a large bell-shaped case in purple, containing within it numerous receptacles, twenty one useful toilet articles, in celluloid. Photo frames, wall pockets, albums, all of the most artistic design and elaborate finish. Gold bar and lace pens and pencils, etc. Space will not permit mention of the hundreds of presents given and received which comprised valuable, useful and ornamental articles of all descriptions and kinds; of toys and confectionary there was no end, the "little folks" being most plentifully supplied.

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