

# Hood River Glacier.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1896.

The Dalles Chronicle, in its issue of Wednesday, says "the people of Hood River are still 'chewing the rag' over the recent lease of the river to the lumbering company," and further says:

Two or three corporations have heretofore been organized for the avowed purpose of improving the river so as to make it fit to transport the timber of the valley to market but none have ever attempted the work because it required too much capital to make that turbulent stream a highway for floating logs. Now that a company is actually threatening to do what will be of greater benefit to that turbulent little town than any enterprise ever before started there, there is wild excitement and abuse of the county court for entering into the contract of lease. By the way, the whole scheme was warmly supported and heartily approved by the Hood River end of the county court. We would suggest that Hood River let the people who have the courage to spend money in their community in improving their stream alone. At least \$20,000 or \$30,000 will be required to make the proposed improvement, and that amount of money turned loose, even in that rich community, will help everybody out a little.

The Chronicle editor, for some reason, persists in misrepresenting the state of affairs in our town. If he wants to be fair in the matter, let him come down here and interview our citizens on the lease question. There never was much of a sentiment here in favor of the lease, and he will find there is none now, outside of the parties directly interested. Talk is cheap, but it will take money to improve Hood River and keep up the improvements for the driving of timber at all seasons down the stream. When the company owning the lease have expended \$20,000 or \$30,000 for Hood River, our town will be a great city and Hood River will be bigger than the Columbia.

A mass meeting is called to meet in Hood River, tomorrow, at 2 p. m., for the purpose of extending the organization of the Valley Improvement Co. It is hoped that everybody in the valley who is interested in having a ditch and flume built will be present at this meeting and make a bona fide subscription to as many shares of stock as he is able to carry. If matters had run smoothly until the completion of the first mile, the original plan would have been carried out and no money have been asked for until after the mile had been built; but as matters now stand, before there is any further progress it will be necessary for every one interested to manifest such interest in a substantial way at once. Those who attend the meeting will get the benefit of a full explanation, and if a sufficient number of people give it their support, the ditch will be pushed ahead, and if not it will be dropped, and such rights as are now acquired will be forever lost or regained only after a desperate struggle. The place appointed for the meeting is the Mt. Hood hotel, but it is hoped more commodious quarters will be found to be necessary.

The Hood River Water Supply Co.'s notice, published in the GLACIER during last month, stating that on Feb. 8th applications for water would be received and preference given to old customers, drew a large and eager crowd to the company's office last Saturday. All day long the crowd kept up, each man waiting his turn to give security for the payment of rent for the number of inches he required, while others not fortunate enough to be old customers, hoped the water would hold out to allow them to come in for a share. But many were turned away disappointed. The interest taken in the water question at this meeting showed plainly that an irrigating ditch that will supply our farmers and fruit growers with sufficient water is of more importance than any other enterprise ever projected in the valley. Any scheme that will in any way hinder the building of the proposed flume and ditch is not worthy the support of our people.

Mr. R. D. Cameron of White Salmon was a caller at the GLACIER office Wednesday. Mr. Cameron owns boom privileges at the mouth of White Salmon river. The state law of Washington allows him 75 cents per 1,000 feet for booming saw logs, and other timbers in proportion, but he says he has never charged cordwood men anything for using his boom. He expressed surprise at the terms of the lease.

We give up most of our space this week to correspondence on the lease question, and several letters on the same subject are crowded out. This question has caused more comment than anything that ever affected the interests of our citizens. The people talk of nothing else, and it would be a hard matter to gather items on any other subject.

Do not fail to attend the water meeting tomorrow. Everybody is expected to attend and help give the new ditch a grand start.

Thinks the Winans Didn't Get Enough. Mt. Hood, Feb. 10, 1896.—Editor GLACIER: I feel it my duty to protest against this terrible kicking against Winans Bros.' grand scheme for making us all rich. I think the court has not given them enough, considering how liberal they have been in giving the right of way for ditches and other improvements demanded by a suffering public. I am in favor of giving the devil his due. LOGGER.

A Tale of Several Woes. One woe is passed and there comes two more.—Revelation.

It seems that while Hood River is free from tornadoes, cyclones and yellow fever, it has more than its share of other "woes"—woes that drive taxpayers nearly to madness as fast driving settlers from our midst and preventing others from coming in. We will mention a few of our woes as bewailed by some of our "chronic kickers."

WOE I.—(Remember, these are only the "woes" as enunciated by our "chronic kickers.") Every man in Hood River has to toil with his wife and children from early morn till dark to make enough to pay his taxes, his children going barefoot much of the time. About \$17,000 tax money, more or less, has gone into the drawers of Dalles saloons and other dens and never credited on the books. Taxpayers having lost their receipts, are called on to pay again. A special agent is appointed to hunt up such "delinquents" as have lost their receipts. This agent, or emissary, is to be paid for his services. The taxpayer who has lost his receipt for \$50 is asked to pay it again, and shoves perhaps several dollars into the pockets of the agent for collecting it. The son of toil, with bended back, furrowed cheek and callous hands, goes to his labor encouraged by the county commissioners who assure him "We will hunt these thieves to their holes and make them disgorge." The poor man waits for months and reads the papers in vain to see what luck the court has had in getting his money back. He expects a calcium light to be thrown across their path and a photograph, or at least the names of the thieves. He finally settles down, satisfied that the "court" has hunted the thieves to their holes and made them pull the holes in after them. And now comes

WOE II.—The "chronic kickers" charge that in order to justify the malice of certain parties, after failing in an effort to throw a poor widow's sand bar open as a public highway, the "court" ran the taxpayers to heavy expense by sending the county surveyor here to show that the state road ran through her premises in order to enable the road supervisor to tear down her fence, when the court knew, or ought to have known what every intelligent boy 15 years old knew, that there was not and never had been a state road running through Hood River. The expense of this useless survey was paid by the "chronic kickers," who do not seem yet to know why the tax collector had punched a hole in the lower end of their breeches pocket.

WOE III.—The "chronic kickers" charge that a poor pettifogger, at the instance of a few who had an ax to grind and a gang of irresponsible hoodlums, got up a petition to incorporate the town of Hood River. This petition was withdrawn and another presented without names, taking in farms adjoining without the knowledge or consent of the owners—a most dishonorable transaction—that this incorporation was voted in in the main by hoodlums, Indians and office seekers, and that the incorporation officials, while they have driven many home-seekers away, have only covered themselves all over with glory by impounding a few of the neighbors' horses and cows and running down perhaps two or three dogs. The county commissioners allowed themselves to be led into this trap, passed the incorporation act in spite of the wishes of most of the taxpayers, and said (or one of them, at least), "Well, we couldn't help it!" But now comes

WOE IV., which has so enraged the "chronic kickers" that they seem to be going through the combined motions of an enraged bull, horning defiance at a red rag, and a bucking cayuse tortured by a pair of Spanish spurs.

The "kick" is against the total transfer of Hood river, with its water power, its fish and all privileges thereto belonging, to an organized monopoly for a period of five years as per charter (they claim it ought to read fifty years, but it doesn't). We hope the taxpayers will not be called on to pay expense of a called session to change the 5 to 50 or 100, when it can be fixed up on the telephone. This franchise has been granted by Wasco county without any valuable consideration whatever from the grantees. Our court gave this monopoly the privilege of collecting toll on all cordwood, posts, ties, telegraph poles, lumber, logs, shingle bolts, etc.

The company is allowed two rates. Booming rates to be collected when the boom near the bridge is completed. Saw logs, \$1 per thousand. Piling, telephone and telegraph poles 2 cents a foot, or 50 cents for a pole measuring 40 feet. Cordwood and shingle bolts, 40 cents a cord. Fence posts, \$1 a hundred. The transportation rates to be paid whenever the company announces that 12 miles of the river have been "improved" to the satisfaction of themselves—the court having such confidence in the honor and disinterested benevolence of the lessees that it was not thought necessary to say what work is to be done, or appointing any one to receive the work and report it as done according to the contract, before being allowed to collect toll.

Transportation rates to be added to the above: Transporting cordwood and shingle bolts, 35 cents per cord. Fence posts, 1 cent each. These rates are for 12 miles, with an additional tax for every mile above 12. Now we have got the posts, ties, saw logs, etc., in the boom, what are you going to do with it? If you fish your own lumber out of the river, have you any right to leave it on the sand bar without paying another toll? You may think so, but the contract gives you no such right. If the boom is a poor affair, breaks away and you lose your property, the contract says you are alone responsible for the loss, and besides, the lessees, instead of being allowed a week to repair it, are allowed one year to do it. In the meantime, the man who has contracted to deliver 1,000 cords of wood and has lost 500 cords by a break in the boom, stands on the bank beside his wood pile and "telephones" down: "When will the boom be fixed?" He is answered: "Dear Sir—You

ought to know we have a year to do that work in. You signed over your riparian rights. We own this river. You can go fishing, but be careful not to put a hook in any waters you signed over to us."

The poor man goes home, wet to the skin, "covered with sweat and honorable mud," and says, "Old woman, we're ruined; we have been damnably sold out."

But the contract does not require the company to build any boom or any dam. It incidentally mentions a dam, but what it is to be like, where to be placed, and of what material, is not mentioned. The contract in a very lucid way describes it as "the dam or boom the party of the second part proposes to construct."

"But," says a corporation capitalist, "the company has given a bond of \$2,500 to complete the work according to contract." This is an extravagant bond even for a straw bond. A bond of 50 cents, signed by old man Keizer, would have as well answered the purpose, because the bond requires the company to do nothing only what it "proposes" to do.

We are told the whole thing was rushed through in a hurry. "Mr. Winans did not hand in his contract until a very few minutes before the court adjourned, when we looked hurriedly over it but had no time to take action."

The court ought to have the credit of examining a paper so vital to the interests of the community, as to know which side was up. Our commissioner has washed his hands of all responsibility in this scheme. He telephoned to the judge as follows:

"I advised him to be very careful not to give a monopoly whereby interested parties could be injured," etc.

The fact that there was such a monopoly given throws the whole responsibility on other parties. We have corroborative evidence that our commissioner is innocent of the conspiracy in the fact that many of our citizens heard him say he was at first opposed to the whole scheme.

Again, upon stepping off the cars after Winans had come back to the Dalles and reported that "every one was in favor of the project," he stepped square into a hornet's nest of "chronic kickers."

"I was informed that a report was being circulated to the effect that this whole scheme was being carried out on the part of Winans Bros. and myself to thwart and prevent the building of a proposed ditch or canal, besides any amount of other nonsensical rumors."

That Winans Bros. did not regard this as a "nonsensical rumor," the kickers offer the fact that Mr. Bell holds a type-written proposition to Mr. Davenport, offering the ditch company 4,000 inches of water for irrigating purposes, but positively prohibiting them from carrying the water inside of the incorporation.

"I'll hell be laid up by his eyes, being in torment, and begged of Lazarus to put a drop of cold water on his parched tongue." By the grace of Heald and some of his tools, I am surrounded by an "incorporation" wall. Between that wall and the water we expected to get of the ditch company, have Winans Bros. dug a "great gulf" beyond which enough Hood river water cannot pass to cool a man's parched tongue.

After 48 years' residence in Oregon, and 19 years in Hood River, I have found that when an enterprising man comes here to spend money, and build up the country, up rises a set that tries to put him in hell or a hole. The "proposed ditch" is the only sensible move toward supplying the town with irrigating water, admitting water power to run mills and manufacturing establishments, employing a hundred men, building up a large town, and enhancing the value of property 100 per cent. Have our county commissioners armed a company with power to crush out this enterprise? Winans Bros. and "chronic kickers" say yes. The records say no.

"It is further expressly understood that this lease contract confers no rights to said party of the second part so as to exclude or interfere with the use of water from said stream and branches by any other person, company or corporation for irrigating purposes or power for operating machinery of any kind."

This ditch scheme offers us mills, useful, permanent, substantial. The "chronic kickers" can see in the monopoly scheme little else than windmills, and more wind than mills.

This monopoly will be defeated. It hasn't enough sound legs to stand on, though helped to hobble by a pair of new crutches, made to order and patented by our worthy county commissioners—but it is a great pity that our already overburdened taxpayers should be driven to the necessity of defending their rights by expensive and annoying lawsuits. W. L. ADAMS.

A Protest.

HOOD RIVER, Feb. 10, 1896.—Editor GLACIER: As kicking seems to be in order, I would like to put in my protest and be on record as well as our honorable county court. And I think I have some reason to complain, for I am the only man that ever went on the west fork of Hood river and lived out a homestead, staying there five years and keeping my family there two winters, then moving back and forth, spring and fall. If I read the contract given by Wasco county to the Hood River Lumbering Co. rightly, I am practically debarred for a term of five years from receiving any benefits from my timber. The discrimination in prices is so rapid that timber will have to become very valuable before it will pay for transportation, as any one can see by the contract. To illustrate:

In the winter of 1888-89, a party of us cut and put in the river 50,000 fence posts. That winter there was no snow in the mountains and the water did not rise in the river, and without improvements or high water, the posts were put here for 3¢ cents, allowing every man wages that helped drive the posts. In the spring of 1894 there were 40,000 taken from the same ground, and it cost one-half of one cent per post to put them in the town of Hood River. There was plenty of snow in the mountains that year and the water was sufficient to make it very profitable to bring posts 18 miles; but under the present contract with the lumber company it will cost, after the river is improved, 5 cents per post to get them from my place to Hood River, regardless of what is said by those interested about the cost being only 1 cent. It is 1 cent for booming, 1 cent for the first twelve miles, 4 cent for each additional mile measured, which is six miles, making 3 cents, and 3 and 2 are 5. Now they

will say this is not to go into effect until the first 12 miles are completed. Granted, but said company can collect boomage after said boom is completed. That is what the Winans are after. They have been at Hood River ever since I have been in the valley, extorting tribute from every post, every cord of wood and telephone pole that came down the river, and now the county court has made it possible for them to string that old boom with Mr. Tucker's chain, and at once collect 1 cent for every fence post, 40 cents for every cord of wood, 60 cents for every telephone pole, and they need not do one cussed thing to the river. But granting they fill the letter of the contract, which is for 12 miles, that only takes it to their own timber, and then they control the price of timber for five years to come! No one else can get their timber to market, for they own the timber for four miles above the specified 12 miles, and as the rates advance 25 cents per mile for each additional mile, it will cost \$2 per thousand to get the timber to Hood River, and \$1 for booming, making \$3 per thousand which will go to said company before the man owning the timber can get pay for even cutting, let alone anything for the timber. And as I am two miles further up the river, I can add 50 cents more.

A few words in regard to looking up the law, whereby "Justice" refers to pages 105 to 107 of laws of 1889. But few of us have said book. As for my part, I do not believe any set of men, even republicans, ever passed a law whereby they intended it should confiscate any man's property. Now, if "Justice" will sign his own name so the people of Hood River can know who he is, they might get him to explain of what justice consists. C. L. MORSE.

In Doubt.

HOOD RIVER VALLEY, 1896.—To the glasher Edditer: I seed tother day that evry body was runnin for the glasher and gitten sort o' exsited. my old woman sed it was about sum bloted bond holder and corporation risticrats that hed gobbled up hood river and all its rites privleges and herditiments— what ever that menes. A fellar cum along here ysterday with a big bundle of papers and asked me if tuck eny intrest in publick improvements. I sed yes i hev jist bilt a pig pen at my own expense. He sed you are the most intelligentest man i hev struck in hood river. if all our honest and noble suns of toil was jist like us, times wood be flush and we wd see the last of nonnopolistick bloted bond holders and ristikrats that sentymt struck in to my hart, and brakin out in teers i sed giv us yer hand old fellar, them's my sentiments, and i thank god i hev at last struck ile and a christen combie in won. jist then he run his finger into the gutter hole of my coat and sed brother i am gitting intellygent men and mer without gite to sine their riparian rites. I first tho't i sine, as it would be all rite of course to sine for a prayer meetin or enny thing else a christen wanted sined. I told him so and he sed yes you are rite, and that's jist the vew taken by the court. I told him i thought well of his skeme, as it seemed to nock the wind outen all the monnopolists. I promised to see him agin, but the old woman sed she tho't she smelt sutlin, and she was afeerd i mite sine away our spring, & she wood hev no wotter fer drinkin or washen dishes. she sed if heald cum pack & tuck us in to the sitty limmets we mont lose our Spring.

now mister glasher wood you advise me to sine or not to sine jist for a honest christen rember? I've allers bin agin Monnopolys ever sence i left ARKANSAW.

Thinks the Contract too Hard to Fulfill.

IN THE FORKS, Feb. 8, 1896.—Editor GLACIER: Some people up this way are growling about Winans Bros.' lease, because the court has given them about a hundred thousand dollars privilege without requiring the enterprising company to do anything on their part. This charge is false, for I find in their contract: "The said party of the second part hereby undertake[s] and agree[s] that it will secure the right of way and other necessary rights from the land owners along said several streams," etc. Is that not imposing a burden on these philanthropists which they cannot carry? Let the county commissioners call an extra session and lighten the load by striking out the above and substituting the following:

You shall move Mt. Hood. Scatter it all around. And leave nothing there. But a hole in the ground. JUSTICE.

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Wasco County School Districts. Of the 62 school districts in Wasco county, 56 have held the requisite number of months of school to entitle them to an apportionment of the school funds, while six retain their organization, but will not be entitled to any part of the apportionment to be made in April. Twenty-three of the districts have found it possible to get through the coming year on the amount to be apportioned to them from the general school fund, while the remaining twenty-three have found it necessary to levy special school taxes. Those that have levied special taxes are as follows:

No. 1.....	3	No. 20.....	3
No. 2.....	3	No. 21.....	3
No. 3.....	3	No. 22.....	19
No. 4.....	6	No. 23.....	4
No. 5.....	6	No. 24.....	4
No. 6.....	6	No. 25.....	5
No. 7.....	6	No. 26.....	3
No. 8.....	6	No. 27.....	3
No. 9.....	6	No. 28.....	3
No. 10.....	6	No. 29.....	3
No. 11.....	6	No. 30.....	3
No. 12.....	6	No. 31.....	3
No. 13.....	6	No. 32.....	3
No. 14.....	6	No. 33.....	3
No. 15.....	6	No. 34.....	3
No. 16.....	6	No. 35.....	3
No. 17.....	6	No. 36.....	3

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# Administrator's Notice.

**GEO. P. CROWELL, TO CREDITORS.** Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been duly appointed by the honorable county court of Wasco county, Oregon, administrator of the estate of Martha Purser, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are notified to present the same to me in Hood River, Wasco county, Oregon, within six months of the date of this notice. Dated November 11, 1895. A. S. BLOWERS, Administrator of the Estate of Martha Purser, deceased. n15d13

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