

Lake County Examiner

VOL. XXIV.

LAKEVIEW, LAKE COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, JAN. 22, 1903.

NO. 3.

STORY OF WAGONTIRE

That Well Known Spot on Lake County Desert Received Name Ram's Peak

Many things happened in Lake County in an early day, and the spots are quite numerous. De Laney, formerly of Lakeview, has written the "Lord of the Range," is now on the staff of the Daily Journal at Portland. De Laney has written many interesting things concerning Lake County, and the following short series of the Range, are no less interesting.

Superior Oregon, that is, the isolation, contains many interesting landmarks that are familiar to stockmen of that section, and which will later be regarded as a part of the most interesting history of that wonderful country. These landmarks are far apart, and in traveling through the country one always finds it necessary to cover a distance between two of them by day. They are usually water-places, and it takes a hard day's travel from one to another in most cases and in some cases it requires a day deep into the night. They are scattered out in the great Oregon "desert" like the beacon lights and guide-points to the mariner at sea. Stockmen or traveler who does not know the landmarks of the Oregon range is in as much danger as a pilot at sea who is ignorant of charts and maps of the country in which he is sailing.

RAM'S PEAK, OR WAGONTIRE.

One of the most interesting of these landmarks is Ram's Peak, or Wagontire Mountain. It is marked on the map as Ram's Peak, but few stockmen know it by that name. They all speak of it as Wagontire, and this name carries with it a great deal of speculation on the part of those who hear the story, and the story is a romantic one, too. This mountain is situated in the Harney and Lake County range. It is supposed to be geographically in the center of the desert. A creek flows from its foothills, and a number of springs boil out from its base.

It is 30 to 50 miles from this point in any direction to other water. The water from the creek and springs flows out into the plains and is drunk by the dry sands. But along its channel and for many acres distant the moisture causes vegetation to spring forth like a well cultivated garden and all wild vegetation always grew here, and now a few early ranchers have settled at the base and have fine meadows and are beginning to raise vegetables and fruits. Ram's Peak was formerly a great game country, and so a great rendezvous for the Indians. When the latter were harassed by the early-day Indian hunters they would lie themselves across the desert and take refuge in the foothills where game and water and grass were plentiful, while a lookout from the peak could observe the approach of the enemy.

Deer, antelope, elk and smaller game were as plentiful as cattle and horses are now. In fact, there is scarcely a day of the present time that the antelope do not visit the hills of fresh grass. The settlers in their houses and watch them graze among their cattle and horses in a sort of way of breaking the

OREGON LAW MAKERS FAIL TO CHOOSE U. S. SENATOR.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 20.—(Special to The Examiner.)—The first ballot for United States Senator took place today in the House of Representatives with Speaker Harris presiding over the joint body. The vote on the first ballot was the same as had been predicted for several days past, as follows: Fulton (R) 29, Geer (R) 20, Wood (D) 16, balance scattering. Necessary to elect 46.

Those who voted for Fulton were: Senators Booth, Brownell, Carter, Dimmick, Fulton, Kuykendall, Marsters, Rand, Smith of Yamhill, Steiwer, Williamson, Representatives Booth, Carnahan, Cornett, Edwards, Emmitt, Gault, Hale, Hansbrough, Harris, Hermann, Hines, Huntley, LaFollett, Paulsen, Phelps, Purdy, Riddle, Shelly, Total, 29.

Those who voted for Geer were: Senators Croisan, Daly, Farrar, Hobson, Howe, Johnson, Mulkey, Representatives Burgess, Danneman, Davey, Ginn, Hayden, Hawkins, Johnson, Jones, Judd, Kay, Miles, Simmons, Whealdon. Total, 20.



MISS MARION COCKRELL, WHO IS SOON TO WED.

Miss Cockrell is the daughter of Senator Cockrell of Missouri. She is a stately and beautiful young woman who has not only been a Washington belle for several seasons, but has made "the grand tour" abroad, where she was much admired. She is to marry Edson F. Gallaudet, son of the president of Gallaudet college, Washington. The young man is connected with the Cramps' shipbuilding firm. The wedding is to occur in February and will be one of the events of the Washington season.

monotony of the isolated and lonely section, where a stranger is sometimes not seen for months.

ORIGIN OF THE NAME.

It is claimed that the name on the map originated from the fact that in early days there were hundreds of wild sheep on the mountain; that these animals came down into the meadows occasionally and when hard pressed would climb up among the peaks and look out from the overhanging rocks and ledges at their enemy and stamp their feet with all of the known impudence of the mountain sheep when once out of danger. There are old timers yet who still remember when an old ram stood guard on the highest peak, and they claim that the name of the mountain originated from this particular ram.

WAGONTIRE.

But the name of Wagontire originated from another cause, and no one who roams the plains will permit it to be called anything else. In early days a large pile of old, worn-out wagon-tires were found near a spring at the foot of the mountain. A trail led across the desert at this

place, and it was naturally presumed that an immigrant train had found its way to this point. But no person has ever been able to explain why or how the old tires were placed there. The mystery about the matter lends importance to it, and for all these years there have been all kinds of speculation about the wagon tires.

THINK THERE WAS A MASSACRE.

There are those who think that an immigrant train wandered this way in the early days and that the Indians attacked it and massacred the immigrants and destroyed their wagons and took away their animals and property. They think that they burned the wagons in a heap, and for that reason the tires were found in a pile. But this theory is offset by the argument that no skeletons were ever found at the place, and that had there been murder committed these evidences would have remained undestroyed. But there are those who argue that some member of the party may have escaped and afterwards returned and buried the

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BURGLAR GETS \$175.

A Lone Robber Breaks Into Cobb Henkle's Saloon Sunday Night --Leaves Only His Tracks.

Cobb Henkle's Saloon was robbed last Sunday night of about \$175. The person who committed the larceny was evidently somewhat acquainted with the premises, and awaited his opportunity with a great deal of judgement. Jack Coffman is night bartender, and closed the saloon at 1 o'clock, and it was some time after this that the thief stepped up on one of the rods in front of the glass on the front door, which was bent in the operation, and from there he pushed open the transom, breaking the inside fastenings loose. It was then an easy matter to crawl through the opening above the door, and step down on another rod on the inside, the inside rod was also bent. The night combination of the safe had not been turned on, and this fellow was evidently familiar with the day lock. The safe was opened and all the money, about \$175 in all, was taken. There was one sack containing about \$25 in nickels and dimes, and about \$90 of the remainder was silver, \$18 of the amount belonged to Irvin Gentry, a Klondike dealer, and with this exception the loss was Cobb's alone. The cash drawer was also opened and a few dollars in change was taken, or all the drawer contained.

The thief again showed his familiarity with the place by going out the back way. Two doors had to be gone through, but they were locked on the inside and the keys were in the doors. About a half or three-quarters of an inch of snow had fallen early in the evening, and the burglar was easily tracked out the back way. He tiptoed out to the alley, and then went north, but changed his mind, or fearing he might meet some one, came back and out around Hotel Lakeview, and there his tracks were mingled with a multitude of other tracks, and were soon lost sight of. The tracks were easily discernable, as the shoes had been half-soled, and the tracks showed quite plain.

Cobb takes his loss quite philosophically, and in a joking way, said he wouldn't care so much if the rascal would come around and spend a few dollars during the dull spell.

W. D. Woodcock on learning of the robbery immediately went to his safe, thinking perhaps it might have been rifled too. He found that it had been tampered with, but the culprit had not been able to work the combination. Woodcock says they would not have been paid for their trouble if they had opened it.

Moral: It is a bad practice to leave more than six bits in a sheet iron safe, especially when there are "rounders" loafing about with no visible means of support.

Mabel Chandler Dead.

Fanny Mabel Chandler, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Chandler, died after an illness of two weeks with typhoid pneumonia. Mabel had been going to school previous to her sickness and was well liked by her school mates. She was aged 14 years, and 11 days. The funeral was held from the residence at 2 o'clock Sunday.

TONGUE DIES SUDDENLY.

Our Congressman Succumbs to An Attack of Heart Failure While in Washington.

Hon. Thomas H. Tongue, representative in Congress from the First district of Oregon, died very suddenly and unexpectedly in his apartments in the city of Washington, Jan. 11th, 1 o'clock in the afternoon, of paralysis of the heart. No intimation of illness or indisposition on his part had been received by his friends in Oregon, and the news of his death came as a great shock to thousands of his admirers and constituents. Mr. Tongue has been very much engrossed with his duties since the opening of the short term of Congress and remained at Washington during the holiday recess. Always a hard worker his unremitting toil has doubtless enfeebled an otherwise wiry physique. With the brilliance of his mental attainments and the knowledge of legislation which he had gained during his successive terms in Congress, his death, at this time, is a serious loss to the people of Oregon. He was elected last spring to serve his fourth continuous term in the lower house of the National legislature, and his growth in the esteem of his constituents was evidenced in steadily increased pluralities by which he was returned to Congress. Mr. Tongue was an effective, fluent and logical speaker, and his addresses on the stump and in the halls of Congress always commanded wide attention. His grasp of national affairs and questions was equalled by few men in Oregon, and he was regarded as a strong man, not only in his own state, but in the country at large.

Mr. Tongue was a native of England, where he first saw the light June 23, 1844, and where he resided with his parents until his fifteenth year. At that time his family came to this country and moved directly to Washington county, in this state. Young Tongue was sent to Pacific University, where he graduated with honor in 1868, after which he read law with Hon. W. D. Hare, and was admitted to the bar in 1870. He soon took a leading position among the lawyers of the state, and was elected to various municipal offices in his city of Hillsboro. He became identified with the Republican party at an early age, and of which he has been a lifelong and distinguished member. He was elected to the state senate in 1888, and served during his second term as chairman of the judiciary committee. He was chairman of the Republican State Convention held at Portland in 1890; was a delegate to the National convention at Minneapolis in 1892, and was for several years chairman of the Republican State Central Committee.

In 1896 he made his first run for Congress when the odds seemed to be hopelessly against him. His campaign at that time is memorable. The silver craze was at its height, but "Tom" Tongue never wavered a moment in his advocacy of the gold standard and by his unanswerable logic on the stump he made converts by the score. He was successful over Vanderbrug, his Populist opponent, by a plurality of 74. In 1898 he triumphed over R. M. Yeatch by a

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