

Lake County Examiner

VOL. XXIV.

LAKEVIEW, LAKE COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 1903.

NO. 34.

PAYS VISIT TO WARNER

A Local Photographer Sees Many Things of Interest and Takes Views of Growing Fields.

South Warner, Sunday, Aug 16, 1903.

EDITOR EXAMINER:—

Alas! What a pity it is that we do not heed the advice of our mothers. We can always see when it is too late how we might have avoided our mistakes. Here I am in misery knee deep, if not deeper, all because I didn't do as mother said I should.

The South Warner Valley settlers seemed to get it into their heads that they must have pictures to lay before the Governor as evidence in their case, and immediately sent a messenger to Lakeview for a photographer. I did not want to come, had too much unfinished work at home, and then, too, Warner is supposed to be full of bad people and I'm not brave, but as there was no one else to make the attempt, it seemed that I must and so I finally consented, after advising with my friends and being assured that, while the man sent to take me over was dark visaged and looked very much like an outlaw, he was really an uncommonly good man. We started at seven o'clock Thursday morning and it was just at that time that kind hearted mother gave the advice so sadly disregarded. She said, "my daughter, you should take your rubbers or gum boots, you don't want to get your death of cold wading around in that swamp." "Oh, never mind about that," I said, "If I need rubbers, I can get plenty of them in Warner," and so I came, but have not seen one gum boot or rubber in this country, and so have had to wade without them. And oh, the misery of it. I got into an especially bad place this morning out on the Frakes' meadow beyond the hay stacks. It was such a bad, sticky place—I longed for not only gum boots but a whole suit of rubber. The ground was dry and dusty, but how the fox-tails did stick. We returned to the house by eleven o'clock this morning and I have put in my time since then up to the beginning of this, at 3 o'clock P. M., picking my clothing and yet am not through with it. All this, however, has been a good Sunday lesson. It keeps me thinking of the time Sampson caught the three hundred foxes and tied fire brands to their tails, and when he had set the brands on fire, turned them loose into the Phillistines' grain fields. And to think, too, that this wading was done on swamp land is food for more Sunday meditation.

The glare of water being bad for the eyes, I was thoughtful enough to bring dark glasses, but in spite of this, the dust, not the water, is rather trying. Water has not given anything like serious trouble except in one case and that was when we broke a tug strap in crossing a muddy slough on the way to Uncle Joe Morrow's place. That mud, I was told, was on some of the corporation's desert land and was, therefore, in the right place, as it was positive proof of reclamation.

When you have visited the families here, driven over their ranches, taken views from the tops of their hay stacks, and used their cellars for dark rooms, you feel pretty well

acquainted with them. You find them hospitable and kind hearted, and that there is nothing to fear. There are no mansions. One could hardly expect them to build on land in dispute, but the shade trees and vines give the dwellings a comfortable appearance and even the bachelors' places with their pigs, chickens and potato patches are home-like.

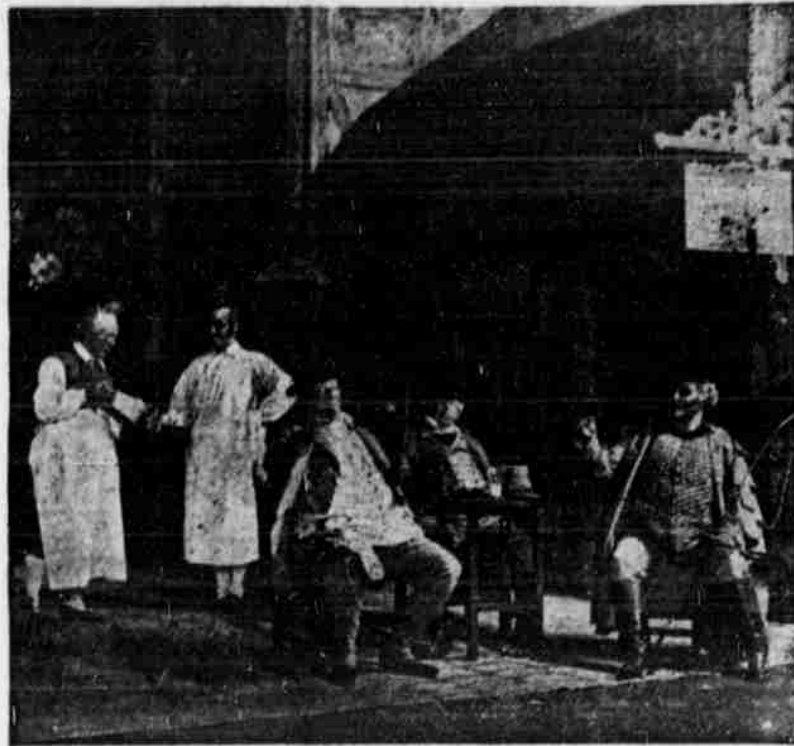
The soil and climate have their best recommendation in the orchards in which there are trees bearing apples, pears, prunes and peaches; and in the gardens, in which there are all kinds of berries and vegetables, including such as beans, cucumbers, squashes and ripe water-melons. It strikes one as a little peculiar to see these things growing on land supposed to be under water, but one sees strange things in Warner. One of the queerest sights is to watch these people as they drive over their meadows going to or from their work. In many places a fog seems to rise from under the horses feet and from the wagon wheels, at times becoming so dense that horses and wagon are almost obscured from view; one naturally remarks, "that's mist", but on closer inspection it is found to be dust. It is wonderfully strange that in one of the very wettest parts of the "swamp" land claimed by the settlers, it takes a well twenty feet deep to reach water. And if, even years ago this was a lake, why did the Indians choose to build their town here, as there are unmistakable evidences they did, on the banks of the creek running through Mr. Taylor's place? When one sees the dams and ditches used now on this land for irrigating purposes they suggest the idea that probably the settler's troubles are all ended when he gets his patent, and that hereafter, just as a reminder of the past, he may have a little litigation and an occasional lawyer's fee to pay—It would be a strange irony of fate that would compel a man to fight for years to avoid becoming "swamped" and then, under the same conditions fight again for water.

Warner Valley, as you first see it, looking from the graded road of Deep Creek canyon, presents a beautiful view. The haystacks, so thickly dotted over the meadows, tell their own story of prosperity. The comfortable homes, with their gardens and orchards are a pleasant feature of the scene and besides these there are thousands of acres of land, which are unquestionably swamp, extending away in the distance. One cannot wonder that there are many people willing to own such a country, but to the disinterested observer it would seem that there is room enough for all who are located here and that harmony should reign in such a place if anywhere on earth.

Long may the corporation live and its beef grow fat. Long may the "settlers" prosper and the voices of their children gladden the schools and homes as they do now.

A PHOTOGRAPHER.

Hermann J. Geer, father of ex-Governor T. T. Geer, died at his home at The Cove, Union county, August 13th, aged 75 years. He was a native of Ohio and came across the plains to Oregon in 1847, in the company commanded by Gen. Joel Palmer, settling in Marion county. Afterward in 1866 he located in the Grande Ronde valley, eastern Oregon, where he has ever since resided.



PICKWICK ON THE STAGE—SCENE FROM "MR. PICKWICK."

Here is a scene from "Mr. Pickwick," the new musical comedy which is pleasing New Yorkers. The title role is taken by that jovial big comedian, De Wolf Hopper, who is seen in the front center of the picture taking his ease with friends in the courtyard of the Dingley Arms.

No Appointments Now.

A Washington dispatch to the Oregonian on Aug. 20 says that the Interior Department desires to put new men in the offices of Register and Receiver at the Lakeview Land Office. E. M. Brattain and Harry Raney are the present incumbents.

The department holds nothing against the character of Brattain or Bailey, but does not like their administration of the offices.

The Oregonian in a late issue says: Oregon members of Congress have agreed to let the pending Federal appointments go over until next Winter or at least until President Roosevelt has decided the Knowles case. The delegation has five land offices to fill, and has reached an understanding in two or three of the awards, but has not sent the official recommendation to the President. The office of United States District Attorney, now held by John H. Hall, is also at the disposal of the delegation. The resignation of George W. Colvig from his Consularship at Barranquilla, Colombia, will be announced in a short time and the delegation will probably endeavor to fill the position again with an Oregon man.

"We shall not make any more recommendations," Senator Mitchell is reported to have said several days ago, "until we know how we stand in the Knowles matter. We wish to learn whether a recommendation by the Oregon delegation is worth anything to the President or whether a recommendation by a special inspector or agent is worth more."

Of the five land office appointments two, and perhaps three, have been decided upon by the delegation. J. H. Booth will succeed himself as Receiver at Roseburg and probably J. T. Bridges as Register. C. U. Snider will get the Receivership at Lakeview, J. N. Watson is likely to be appointed to the office of Register at Lakeview, but it is understood that the delegation has not yet chosen him because Representative Hermann wants E. M. Brattain retained. Appointment of Receiver at Burns is still in doubt. C. E. Ken-

yon and A. W. Gowan are the leading candidates.

"When I'm for a man, I'm for him," announced Senator Mitchell, several days ago. "I don't have any second choices."

Reliance Wins Two Heats.

NEW YORK, August 22.—On the 52nd anniversary of the winning of what was then the Queen's cup by the America, the Stamrock III, Sir Thomas Lipton's 3rd candidate for the international trophy, now known as the America's Cup, was defeated by the Reliance, time allowance excluded from the reckoning, by 8 minutes 59 seconds. With the time allowance the Reliance won by seven minutes and two seconds.

The second race was run Tuesday, Aug. 25, and Reliance won by one minute and 15 seconds. If the Reliance wins the next race the cup is ours for another year.

Runaway Accident.

Miss Eleanor Hess of Portland, who has taken a position as stenographer in the Lakeview land office, met with a very painful, and what might have been a fatal accident, last Sunday evening about 8 o'clock. While out driving in a single buggy the horse became frightened at some horseback riders passing, and she was unable to manage her horse. The animal dashed around the corner of the livery stable near the court house into Main street, when Miss Hess was thrown violently to the hard graveled street, striking on her face and chest. She was very badly bruised and scratched about the face. She will be confined to her room for some time.

Miss Hess had only begun on her duties at the land office a few days before, and was just becoming familiar with the office work. The rush of business at the land office the past year had piled work up far beyond the capacity of the office force to handle it, even when clerk Whitley was there, and since then it has been accumulating rapidly. At the present time the office is probably three years behind.

BIG OREGON LAND SALES

Broke all Records in the Sale and Settlement of Public Lands During the Fiscal Year.

The State of Oregon witnessed the greatest activity in its history in the settlement and sale of its public lands for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1903. The year broke all records, both as to the number of entries, the amount of lands disposed of, and the cash receipts from sales, combined with fees and commissions collected at local land offices.

During the year just ended there were in all 18,744 entries made in Oregon, embracing a total area of 1,844,698 acres of land. The enormous aggregation of funds derived from sales, fees and commissions was \$2,655,330, nearly four times the amount collected in 1902.

The unprecedented gains are apparent when these figures are compared with those of 1902, when there were but 11,792 entries in Oregon, covering 1,297,099 acres of land. In that year sales, fees and commissions amounted to \$598,281. These returns mean that the state of Oregon last year contributed in the neighborhood of \$2,069,000 to the reclamation fund, or twice as much as the state contributed in the two years preceding, when it turned in more than \$900,000.

The reclamation fund gets all cash receipts, with the exception of money from the land office, and the 5 per cent diverted to educational purposes.

Although figures, so far as available, do not classify the entries made in Oregon, the fact that over 18,000 new entries are reported is the best evidence that Oregon is attracting settlers in no small numbers, and home-builders and citizens of the desirable class are seeking out the state where they can establish homes under the most favorable circumstances. There is a guarantee that the new settlers are desirable citizens from the very fact that all entries, particularly those of the first half of the year, were most carefully examined to determine whether the entrymen were acting in good faith and in their own interests, rather than in the interests of others.

Woman's Prayers Answered.

Dr. L. W. Brown of Eugene was called to Cottage Grove Aug. 15 to assist in an operation to remove an eye from Mrs. Hunnicutt, who has been blind in one eye for 36 years. The operation was to be performed the next day. The woman was placed on the operating table and attending surgeons got instruments in readiness for the operation, when the woman shouted that the Lord had restored her sight. Those in attendance were greatly surprised at the outburst, but the good eye was closed and she was shown several articles and could see them plainly with the eye that had been blind for years. She called the articles by name. There were half a dozen witnesses of the occurrence.

The woman had spent several hours in prayer previous to the time for the operation and just before going on the operating table offered a final prayer to God to restore her sight.