

TALENT NEWS.

December 15th.

1892.

THE LITERARY SOCIETY.

Dec. 2nd—Meeting opened with a lively discussion of a motion to assess each member ten cents to raise a sum sufficient to defray certain necessary expenses. Several members vigorously opposed a measure involving such reckless extravagance. Times were hard; dimes were scarcer than hen's teeth and societies, as well as individuals, should practice Populistic economy. Then, again, it might be opposed from moral considerations. Such an enormous assessment would result in an overflowing treasury and the society would be doing a great wrong in placing so vast an amount of money in the hands of the young man who acts as treasurer. The temptation might be too great.

He might develop a sudden notion that Canada was a better country than Wagner creek, resulting in much weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth on the part of his bondsmen.

It would never do. The motion prevailed however, but it was understood that the president would appoint a committee of expert detectives to keep close watch of the treasurer's movements.

The recitations and readings that followed were excellent. None fell short of good, but the following were especially interesting:

- "An Old Maid's Decision,"—Waldo Klum.
- "A Family Dispute,"—Iney Stevens.
- "The Preacher's Vacation,"—E. Robison.
- "The District Schoolmaster,"—John Beeson.
- "How A Married Woman Goes to Sleep,"—S. S. Stevens.
- "Only A Tramp,"—Gertie Purves.
- "She Made a Mistake,"—Geo. Stevens.
- "Only A Little Grave,"—Florence Dyer.
- "Candy Pulling,"—Arthur Stevens.
- "Why Can't Girls Whistle?"—Jay Terrill.
- "Hugging in the Public Park,"—Lizzie Netherland.

[This was a very logical defense of a very pleasant custom—Ed.]

- "An Old Maid's Prayer for a Man,"—Clara Terrill.

This recitation was rendered to perfection and took down the house. And old maid pours forth a most earnest appeal to the Lord to send her a man. She is not particular as to looks, age, health, character or disposition—"only a man." She shudders to think of the sorry appearance she would make perambulating the golden streets of the New Jerusalem as a forlorn and lonely old maid.

Her prayer is answered; she opens her eyes and lo, a most repulsive object, stands before her. Giving her imagination full play, the horrid thing is made out to be a dude. She repents her rash prayer and pleads most old-maidfully for the Lord to take the thing away—that if He will "relieve her of this," "She will forever remain a miss."

A song "Singing with the Angels," by Arthur, Lizzie and Emma Abbott was well rendered.

The entertainment concluded with a play entitled, "Saved at Last," which was highly appreciated. On last Friday evening the question "Resolved that wealth has caused more crime than poverty," was discussed in a spirited manner and decided in the affirmative. The program for one week from to-morrow evening calls for a mock trial before Justice Sherman.

A lively time is expected.

Laura Webster returned from Dunsuir last Sunday.

Mrs. Frank Towne, of Phoenix, has been very ill for several days with erysipelas.

Robt. Purves left last Sunday for Aplegate, in the employ of L. C. Kellogg, to take charge of a farm leased by the latter. He will be absent several mouths.

J. C. Wilson, a new comer in the valley, has rented Al. Helm's farm for one year.

Mr. Editor—

You can have no idea how overjoyed I was to receive those two answers to my advertisement for a wife. So far I have read them over about a dozen times a day. I take the paper with me to my work and read the letters over and over again while resting. But for the life of me I can't decide which one of those dear young ladies I could like the best.

Rosie Lee's "drawing and painting", would take my eye sure, and then, again, I so much want to see "R. Z. L's." blue eyes that "sparkle like a Negro's heel," and sample roast elephant's trunk prepared by her fair hands.

I'll study over it two weeks more and then answer sure.

X.

Our esteemed friend I. M. Wagner writes us an interesting letter from Salem, stating that he recently contributed to a church entertainment at that place by reading selections from a copy of the TALENT NEWS, including "X's" advertisement for a wife; that he thus secured one new subscriber and a promise of several more. Thanks, Such letters cheer the heart of an editor.

What better Xmas present can you make to any one than a year's subscription to some good magazine or paper?

Subscribe at the Ashland News Stand.

It seems that a good many years ago, one Biela turned loose a comet that was not thoroughly halter broke and that it has been cavorting about the skies ever since, following a system of its own. It is not a pet with the astronomers as it often fails to keep its engagements with them. They call it the "devil of the skies," the "drunkard among the stars" etc, from its eccentric movements. This is the comet that was headed for the earth a few days ago, causing so much anxiety lest it hit our little planet a punch in the back of the neck. But the danger is over and we breathe easier.

Lieutenant Peary will make another trip to the north, for which he has been granted three year's leave of absence.

The objects are to trace the northern coast line of Greenland, to ascertain if any land exists north of that island and to reach the north pole.

Place your subscriptions with the Ashland News Stand for the various papers and magazines which you desire to take and you will save cost of money-order and postage.