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THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

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THE LAST VETERAN

Never again will a veteran of the Civil War raise his voice or cast his vote in the Congress of the United States. The recent death of Congressman Charles Manley Stedman of North Carolina makes this a melancholy fact. He was the last veteran of the '60s in either branch of Congress.

Senator Warren of Wyoming, the last Union soldier to serve in that body, died last year.

Major Stedman was 89 years of age at the time of his death. He did not enter Congress until he was past 70, and was finishing his tenth term, after which he had some months ago signified his intention to retire. But fate decreed that he should die in the office he had creditably held so long.

Born on January 29, 1841, Major Stedman served as private, lieutenant, captain and major under Lee, and was wounded three times in action. He was a lawyer by profession and had served as lieutenant-governor of North Carolina before entering Congress. On his last birthday Congressman Daughton of that state paid a fine tribute to Major Stedman which included these words:

"He has by his great ability, courtly manners, conscientious devotion to duty, his assiduous and untiring energy, rendered a service that has commanded recognition, approval and admiration."

Most campaign thunder is accompanied by very little lightning.

Speed and worry, says the specialist, are the causes of nervous breakdowns. Sure. Worrying about trying to keep ahead of the car right behind of you and the next payment right in front of you.

Mrs. Will Rogers says her husband is never funny around the home. Which may mean that Will is afraid to get funny with the Mrs. or that she has a poor sense of humor.



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SHELTON'S DAIRY
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OWYHEE

Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Kerr were guests of Mrs. Lillian Walters and Mr. and Mrs. J. Llenhard in Arcadia Thursday.

Government road men, who have been working near the dam site, have moved to camp near the D. P. Pullen ranch.

Carl Jungquist of Vale and John Bigelow were deer hunting Sunday. Miss Bernice Duun, Owyhee school teacher, spent the week end in Baker.

Fred Klingbach and Jas. Lane families were dinner guests in the N. Bach home Sunday.

Mrs. Walter Nichols was hostess to the Kolony P. T. A. Friday. There were 18 ladies present.

Leola May Truelson fell from a running horse Sunday as she and a party of friends were returning from a trip to the Snively hot springs. Her arm was broken and a cut in her head necessitated several stitches. Lila Hite was also cut about the face but not so seriously.

John Bigelow has been transferred to the Shea camp from the Snively camp.

Mrs. Heery Truelson will be hostess to Owyhee community club Thursday, the 16th.

The C. D. Bigelow family was at the Lawe home at the Hot Springs Sunday.

The rain Tuesday caught most of the third crop hay still in the field.

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Judd and children were guests at a family dinner in Caldwell Sunday, the occasion being the wedding anniversary of an uncle.

One good way to handle the back seat driver is to put 'em in the rumble seat and let 'em rumble.

BIG BEND

The October session of P. T. A. met with Mrs. W. A. Sweet Friday. Mrs. Burt Roberts and Mrs. L. Eachus were assistant hostesses. Plans were made for attending county council next Saturday and also for a series of evening meetings during the winter.

P. F. Weikel of Ontario was a visitor in the Bend Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Blodgett of Nyssa, Miss Lucile Rogers and Robert Peck of Owyhee were guests at the C. E. Peck home Sunday.

Genrose McCullough was on the sick list several days.

Mrs. Elizabeth Darden and her brother Chas. Purdy, Sr., left for Mississippi Sunday. Mrs. Darden has been visiting here several weeks and Mr. Purdy returned with her for a visit in his old southern home.

George Tureman of Baker, who formerly made his home in Bend, is a guest of Mr. and Mrs. Joe King.

A large crowd attended grange Tuesday evening. F. Lee Johnson, Clarence Roberts and R. H. Young of the Parma grange were visitors and spoke on the oil leases being made in this section. On October 21 a degree team from Boulevard will come to initiate a class of candidates from Big Bend and Parma and we expect to have a large attendance and a good meeting.

Rumania's secretary of war has ordered a census taken of all the cellars in the country. Does this mean that the army is thinking of making a strategic retreat?

EARLY HISTORY OF MALHEUR COUNTY

WRITTEN BY J. R. GREGG, PIONEER PUBLISHER AND POSTMASTER, FOR VALE'S ANNUAL PIONEER PICNIC.

Richard Welch and wife emigrated from Ogden, Utah, in 1878, settling in the Washoe bottom in 1879.

Josiah Carter, who with his family had come west from Arkansas, settled H. Plummer, native of Michigan, who came west from Nebraska in 1881, secured this place from Mr. Carter when the latter moved to Ontario in 1889 to take charge of a livery barn where the Bingham Concrete company now has its plant.

Judge J. T. Clement, the first county judge elected in Malheur county, was a native of Michigan. In 1881 he headed a party of emigrants which left Lincoln, Neb., bound overland for the Oregon coast. In this party was Stillman Mack and his niece and nephew, Miss Helen and her brother Harry Plummer. The former became the wife of Buell Clement, second son of the judge. Mrs. Villa Davis and Mrs. R. D. Greer were also members of this party. While passing through Washoe bottom, the judge stated that he saw a man grappling potatoes that looked to him as large as cord wood, so he decided at once to pitch his tent right there.

J. A. Morton, for whom the original town of Ontario was first named, was a native of Virginia. In 1862 the family came by ox team to Oregon, settling in the Grand Ronde valley. They were members of a large emigrant train and endured many hardships including trouble with the Indians. Mr. Morton engaged in mining until 1870, when he settled on lower Willow creek near Vale and engaged in stock raising. Both Mr. and Mrs. Morton are buried at Jamieson, near where they first located.

Wm. O'Brien, a native of Ireland, settled near the mouth of the Malheur river in the 70's and engaged in raising horses and farming. Soon after he was joined by his sister Nell, who kept house for "Billy" until she married Dennis Dyer. "Billy" died at the home of Mrs. Dyer in Weiser about 17 years ago.

David Dunbar, a native of Ontario, Canada, left that province in 1866 and went to New York, thence by streamer to San Francisco. He joined a saddle pack train and made his way to the Idaho Basin in 1867. He bought cattle which he brought to this section and located his 200 acre ranch on Snake river and later in the Malheur valley.

In those days, this area must have been a paradise for hunters and sportsmen. Mr. Dunbar stated that in the summer when he first located on

his Snake river ranch he could go out any time and kill all the young ducks he wanted with a club. Ducks and other water fowls hatched and reared their young along the sloughs running out from Snake river, and as they were not disturbed by hunters much they became very tame.

The first band of range cattle was turned loose in what is now Malheur county by L. B. Rinehart at the Washoe ferry in 1865. In the early days many of the stockmen let their stock run on the range all winter without feeding, expecting to loose a small per cent, but considered this more profitable than to put up hay for winter months. But during the hard winter of 1879-80 loss was so great most of them thereafter arranged to feed their stock. A deep snow fell that winter, followed by rain and sleet, which formed a thick crust on the snow, so that the stock were unable to secure their customary range feed. Snake river was frozen with ice so thick that some crossed the stream with team and wagon. When the ice broke in the spring the worst ice gorge ever known in the river occurred. Old timers stated that the ice backed the water out of the banks and considerable portions of present settlements were covered with water.

Wm. Morfitt, "the father of Ontario," was born in Yorkshire, England. When but four years old he crossed the ocean, landing in New York in 1842. In 1847 he came to Oregon. Enroute they were attacked many times by Indians. The family located at Oregon City. In 1849 he went with miners in the gold rush to San Francisco in a sail boat. The following year he returned and enlisted to fight the Indians in the Yakima war. After that he followed the peaceful life of a farmer until 1867 when he moved to Grant county and later to Boise. Mr. Morfitt was a civil engineer and built the first bridge across the Boise river at Boise. In 1868 he went to upper Willow creek and located the first ranch there where he farmed until 1883 when he came to the present site of Ontario and with Daniel Smith, James W. Virute and Mrs. Mary Richardson located the town a year later. Mr. Morfitt laid out and surveyed the original townsite. Mr. Morfitt built the first business house and first residence in Ontario.

(To Be Continued)

Sometimes we think that what this country needs is fewer people who make it their business continually to tell the country what it needs.

There is the story of the train that hit the midget automobile and then had to stop and let the engineer have it taken out of his eye.

What are the birds to do when all the best roosting places in trees are occupied by small boys and girls?

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The next time a stranger comes to you with a "sure-
shot" business opportunity, ask yourself if he isn't
going to a good deal of trouble in order to let you
make some money. Ask yourself why he didn't let a
few big financiers handle it. If a thing is safe for
you, it would have been safe for them.

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