

THE OBSERVER

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Editor and Owner.

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THE HOGG VERDICT.

Anyone who watched the proceedings in the case of the state vs. Hogg could not have been surprised at the jury's decision. While there were some features that might have been bended to aid the accused man, yet the preponderance of evidence was against him and it seemed where there was so much smoke there must necessarily have been some fire.

The charge was so revolting that anything leading to the guilt of the man scored ten points against him whereas under almost any other charge it would have scored but one. His criminal record was also a thing to overcome and his entire life had been spotted in places which was bound to make impressions on the minds of the men who were called upon to decide his case.

But there is a pathetic side to the Hogg matter, and as usual it is on the side of the mother and sisters who still believe in him. The trying feature of court life is not so much the feeling for the criminal but for those who have nursed him into this world, who have watched over him tenderly through infancy, who have cuddled him in babyhood and sang the usual mother's lullaby to him. To the poor soul who has thus brought into this world a degenerate the heart of mankind offers sympathy. Even a stranger cannot help feeling a thrill of pathetic kindness under such circumstances for the mother who stands at the bar of justice and sees her offspring sentenced to prison. To her he is still the cooling baby, the young boy with his stick horse and tops and marbles, for her life is pure and she cannot conceive how it would be possible for the boy to do what he has been charged with. The speeches of the attorneys and the court are language not to be understood by a loving mother. All she knows of the case is that it is her boy and there must be something wrong in the charge. She clings to the hope that it will all be righted, even though he goes to prison, believing that time alone will prove his innocence. Thus lives the mother of the convicted man. Each day her heart swells up with

regony but it is comforted in those thoughts of babyhood, when the boy was pure.

And so with the relatives of Hogg. They must live under this cloud he has made for himself. So far as he personally is concerned there should not be the slightest feeling of sympathy; he deserves not the kindly look for the eye of a fellowman. But the mother and the sisters are entitled to the sympathy they are now receiving.

NOT AT ALL DISCOURAGING.

Those who propelled the Chautauqua craft this year should in no way be discouraged. The event practically broke even in a financial way, but it did much to establish itself permanently. The second year of Chautauqua is still a portion of the nursing period and every institution of size and worth must necessarily pass through that period. It must meet with minor obstacles, chief of which is lack of funds, and if the different Chautauquas will be studied it will be found the one has had less of this to contend with than most of them.

But Chautauquas when properly managed, grow despite the setbacks. There is something about them that stands for permanency even though the column of figures foots up in red ink. And La Grande can congratulate herself on a successful second year.

The third season will likely be self sustaining in every particular and that means that all fear for the future shall be eliminated and the Chautauqua as an institution will stand firmly on its own feet. The benefit to be derived from it is not this year nor next alone, but constantly in the future. It is a splendid achievement each year closing a chapter which can be reviewed by the promoters with pleasure.

The San Francisco banker who committed suicide in jail probably did the right thing and at the same time saved his community a lot of annoyance. We still think China has the right plan of dealing with chrooked bankers. China beheads them.

The fact that Teddy has attacked court decisions no longer attracts much attention. Teddy's attacks have had results like his attack on the beef trust too often.

With the wool clip sold and the wheat crop showing extraordinary the Oregon country has no cause for a money shortage.

Pendleton is talking more paying. Now, what do you think of that?

THIS DATE IN HISTORY.

- August 4. 1265—Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester, who founded the English house of commons, killed at the battle of Evesham. Born in France about 1208.
- 1347—Calais, France, taken by the English after a year's siege.
- 1583—Sir Humphrey Gilbert landed in Newfoundland and took possession of the country in the name of Queen Elizabeth.
- 1701—A general treaty of peace was made with the Indians at Montreal.
- 1759—The fort at Crown Point, N. Y., captured from the French.
- 1781—Issac Hayne, a soldier of the

- revolution, hanged by the British at Charleston, S. C.
- 1792—Percy B. Shelley, famous English poet, born. Died July 8, 1822.
- 1812—English defeated the Americans at Brownstown, Mich.
- 1816—Russell Sage, financier, born in Oneida county.
- 1816—Died in New York City, July 23, 1906.
- 1835—The Jesuits expelled from Spain for the second time.
- 1886—Samuel J. Tilden, American statesman, died. Born Feb. 9, 1814.
- 1889—Special delivery letters distributed for the first time in New York city.

"THIS IS MY 52ND BIRTHDAY."

Knut Hamsun. Knut Hamsun, one of Norway's foremost living writers, was born on August 4, 1859, in the parish of Lem, in Budbrandsdalen, Norway. His parents were plain peasant people and his early opportunities to obtain an education were of a most meagre description. He was apprenticed to learn the shoemaker's trade, but he soon ran away and became in turn a dock laborer, a private tutor and a court messenger. He next took to travel and became a stonemason, a woodman and a road laborer. Arrived in Christiania, he devoted himself to study for a time, but again the desire to travel overcame him and he emigrated to America. On this side he became in turn a farm hand in Dakota, a street car conductor in Chicago and a lecturer in Minneapolis. He went next to Newfoundland, where he worked on the lonely fishing banks for several years. When he finally returned to his native land it was to devote himself to literature by putting some of his many interesting experiences into charming stories. From the first he met with much success. He is the author of more than 20 books, novels and plays, many of which have been translated into numerous languages.

Puzzled Philosopher.

The philosopher had purchased a three pound steak for dinner. A little later his cook, having burned the meat, threw it away and reported that the cat had eaten it. "Bring me the cat and I'll see," said the philosopher. The cat was brought and placed on the scales. It weighed exactly three pounds. "You were right," said the philosopher. "There are the three pounds of meat, but where is the cat?"—Chicago News.

Kicked Out.



"It's the unexpected that happens."

When a girl gets married she changes her name and then tries to make a different man of her husband.—Lippincott's.

DYSPEPTIC PHILOSOPHY.

Money is the root of all evil—if you don't happen to have any. Many a man isn't worth the time it takes to get the better of him. It doesn't require much pull to take time by the forelock. The impecunious young man's air castles generally take the form of an hellcell. There is little in common between glittering generalities and golden opportunities. There is always an opening for a good man. If you don't believe it ask the gravedigger. It's a sure sign that a woman begins to realize her age when she stops having her picture taken. Most of us feel that we could bear each other's burdens with more fortitude than we bear our own. Tell a girl she is an angel and the chances are she will want you to fly with her. The man who marries a woman for her money and the woman who marries a man to reform him are just about paired. Most of the articles on how to choose a husband are written by women who never had a chance.—New York Times.

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Starting the Stopped.
One day an old farmer borrowed a mule from his neighbor. After he had finished his work he sent his fourteen-year-old boy to take it home. The boy had gone about half a mile when the mule stopped and positively refused to go any further. After the boy had almost pulled his arms off trying to get him to go an old doctor came along and asked, "Why my son, what is the matter with your mule?" "Why, sir, can't you see, he has balked!" cried the boy. "Well," said the old man, opening his case and taking out a bottle la-

beled into the mule's eye, "we'll see what we can do for him," and he poured some of the acid on the mule's back, and in much less time than it takes to write it the mule was galloping down the road at a rate he had never gone before. The boy looked up in surprise and said, "Doctor, have you got any more of that stuff?" "Yes," answered the man. "Well, doctor, are you sure you have got a whole lot more of it?" he asked. "I think I have plenty. What did you want to know for?" he asked, with a smile. "Well, I wish you would pour some on me, doctor, for I've got to catch that mule," answered the boy.—National Monthly.

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