

Medford Daily Tribune

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THE ROGUE.

The Rogue is a stream of wild beauty, the most beautiful of the many beautiful rivers of Oregon. From its source amid the snowy sentinels of the Cascades, through inaccessible canyon, verdant valley, precipitous gorge, and awesome palisades, to where it spills its mad waters into the heaving sea, everywhere it charms the eye and fascinates the fancy.

The Rogue rises in one of the world's wonder spots, amid scenic attractions few regions surpass. From its source to its mouth its torrents are precipitated vertically a mile and a half, wasting more power than Niagara. Its countless falls and cascades, its still silent pools, its myriad rapids and riffles, are exquisitely framed by nature to delight the artist and appeal to the poet that, latent, lurks in all of us.

The upper Rogue tuncfully tumbles and tears its way through an unfrequented wilderness. Floods of many centuries have cut and carved its bed in the solid lava that poured from the once majestic volcano, whose burned-out bowl is now filled by the blue waters of Crater Lake. Over and under and through this once river of molten rock dash the swirling waters, churned to a foaming frenzy. In a whirl of abandon, the stream in a continuous series of cascades, plunges 600 feet in less than half a mile, and as it falters in its mad career, a turbulent tributary leaps 300 feet to meet it.

Stately forests of pine and fir line the banks of the Rogue, and where the trees are missing, the rocks are picturesquely painted in many colors. Where it pauses in its tumbling flight, verdure-clad valleys widen and fields of green and fragrant orchards are replacing the tangled forest. But the shimmering, glistening, murmuring flood is never still, but always restless, moving towards the sea.

The lower Rogue is no less picturesque, wild and inaccessible than the upper stream. From Hell Gate to the ocean, it dashes in a turmoil of trouble through a precipitous gorge. Huge palisades rear their rocky, barren heads hundreds of feet above, projecting over the narrow channel. Like a silver ribbon, the roaring river far below winds its tortuous, tumbling way, until lost to view in the purple haze of distant mountains through which it hastens to the sea.

The Rogue is the most musical of rivers. The chorus of its cataracts voice the harmonies of the spheres. Every tune that has been woven in the fabric of human fancy can be heard in the roar of its falling waters. The sweetest passages of songs, the voices of long-lost friends stirring the half-forgotten memories of other days and times, speak in its splashing melodies. Even in peaceful pools dwell suggestions of music heard ere birth, "of spirit lutes touched on a spirit sea." It is full of whispers and of shadows, and is as impossible to describe as it is to paint the gold of a summer sky.

No poet has as yet sung of the roaring, winsome Rogue and its murmuring melodies, yet it is a theme worth while. The one great poem produced in Oregon was called forth by a sister stream, yet it might well have been inspired by the more beautiful Rogue. Reference is made to Sam Simpson's lines on

The Beautiful Willamette

From the Cascade's frozen gorges,
Leaping like a child at play,
Winding, widening through the Valley,
Bright Willamette glides away.
Lovely river,
Onward over,
Softly calling to the sea,
Time that sears us,
Maims and mars us,
Leaves no track or trench on thee.

Spring's green witchery is weaving
Braid and border for thy side;
Grace forever haunts thy journey,
Beauty dimples on thy tide.
Through the purple gates of morning
Now thy rosy ripples dance,
Golden, then, when day, departing,
On thy waters trails his lance.
Waltzing, flashing,
Tinkling, plashing,
Limpid, volatile and free—
Always hurried
To be hurried
In the bitter, moon-mad sea.

In thy crystal depths inverted
Swings a picture of the sky
Like those wavering hues of Aëdon
Dimly in our dreams that lie.
Clouded often, drowned in turmoil,
Faint and lovely, far away—
Breathing sunshine on the morrow,
Breathing fragrance round today
Love would wander
Here and ponder,
Hither poetry would dream:
Life's old questions,
Sad suggestions—
"Whence and whither?" throng the stream.

On the moaning wastes of ocean
Soon thy scattered waves shall toss;
'Mid the surges' rhythmic thunder
Shall thy silver tongue be lost,
Oh! thy glimmering rash of gladness
Mocks this turbid life of mine,
Racing to the wild forever,
Down the sloping paths of time,
Onward over,
Lovely river,
Softly calling to the sea,
Time that sears us,
Maims and mars us,
Leaves no track or trench on thee.

ORGANIZER DOES GOOD WORK IN PHOENIX

PHOENIX, Ariz., April 5.—Special Organizer M. E. Hollywood, who has been working in the interest of the Women of Woodcraft at Ashland and Medford, has been at Phoenix working in conjunction with the members of Oak circle, No. 242. And, notwithstanding it is a rural district, scattered over a good deal of territory, they have in the short space of eight days secured 20 new applications. With five more to be balloted upon next Thursday, Neighbor Hollywood has been an inspiration to an already enthusiastic membership, who feel and appreciate her worth to them and to the order she represents.

"THE PICADILLY."

MORE IRRIGATION FOR EASTERN OREGON

SALEM, Or., April 5.—More irrigation projects are in store for eastern Oregon. The United States reclamation service has made three important filings on eastern Oregon streams within the past few days. The filings were made on the Umatilla, Owyhee and Malheur rivers and are now in the office of the state engineer. At present the filings are not definite enough to admit of any reinforcements upon the proposed projects the government expects to make.

WORLD'S COMMERCE SHOWS A DECREASE

WASHINGTON, April 5.—The world's commerce was considerably lower in 1908 than in 1907, according to a statement issued by the bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor. The figures of the imports and exports in all the principal countries, it is stated, showed a falling off. In the United States, for example, imports show a fall of 25,000,000 and exports of 20,000,000 in 1908, as compared with the previous year. In Germany the imports decreased 192,000,000 and exports 234,000,000 in 1908, as compared with 1907.

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