

Bircha Williams

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Monarch of the Amateurs.

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THE WATER QUESTION.

GREAT SHORTAGE OWING TO HEAVY DRAIN UPON THE MAINS.

The city of Ashland has the best system of pure, cold water on the Pacific Coast, and sells this water to its residents at the rate of seventy-five cents a month for the water from a three-fourths inch pipe, for domestic use and irrigation of a quarter of an acre of land. The city collects payment for the water thus sold, strictly in advance, and is then bound to furnish the water.

The flour mill is then allowed to connect a four inch pipe to the water mains for power to run the mill, and, as far as known by the city council, this water is furnished free of charge, for ten solid hours every day. This continual drain upon the water mains is enormous, and, assisted by the united effects of eight or ten smaller pipes running a planing mill, coffee mills, milk shakes, etc., for the use of which the city receives little or nothing, and a vast amount of irrigation water unlawfully running to waste, so diminishes the quantity of water in the pipes that the residents who pay full price in advance are short of water, their gardens and berry crops ruined, owing to lack of the water that they have paid for, just to keep the mill owners from bringing a groundless suit against the city, and as long as it will condescend to be "bluffed" in this manner, the people will "kick" and make complaint. The people make the city, and their rights must be considered before the claims of any business concern.

Several famous detectives, who have a wide acquaintance with the faces of crooks and can pick them out or any crowd, accompany The Great Wallace Shows to protect its patrons against the wiles of the gamblers and swindlers who frequently try to operate in the crowds that attend such big circuses.

The third annual Chautauqua Assembly is over. An illustrated lecture on "Ben Hur," Tuesday evening, by Prof. Fairbanks concluded the programme.

TO REDUCE THE EXPENSE.

A petition is being circulated to cut down the expenses of the electric lights from \$173 to \$84 per month, or to reduce it still lower if the city council thinks best. The council has been desirous of lessening the expense along this line, for sometime, but has had no footing upon which to work, and this petition is just what is wanted.

There are a number of lights around town that could be spared to advantage, as there is no necessity of the city paying for an electric light to increase the value of someone's corner lot.

MONEY IN FARMING.

It is a notable fact that all farming interests improve where it is possible to utilize the water that the wells on the farm will produce. How few people think of the value of water for irrigation, and what could be produced at a minimum cost if it were used. The question has been heretofore how to get the water to the surface economically, and this has been accomplished by the use of Gasoline or Kerosene Oil Gas Engine, manufactured by Palmer & Rey Type Foundry, 405 Sansome street, San Francisco, Cal.

COULD HAVE A LAUNDRY.

According to one who is posted in such matters, a laundry that could turn out work equal to any city laundry, could be added to the woolen mills at a very small cost. They have the washing and the drying apparatus, and all that would need to be added would be a polishing and an ironing contrivance. A good opening for someone.

The iron foundry is now in full operation and a fine quality of work is being turned out. The sand is very good and everything works nicely, so that their work is smooth and accurate. They have a large number of orders now on hand, one being for a large pillar for a building in Medford.