

West Shore

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The WEST SHORE offers the Best Medium for Advertisers of any publication on the Pacific Coast.

PORTLAND, OREGON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1889.

ANOTHER of the evidences of the fitness of Montana and Washington for statehood is given by their militia organizations. The militia of Montana, 600 strong, comprising infantry, artillery and cavalry, were a few days ago in camp near Bozeman, and showed themselves to be in a splendid condition as to equipment, discipline, etc. The effectiveness of the Washington militia was shown by their splendid work in Seattle, Ellensburg and Spokane Falls during and subsequent to the great conflagration in those cities. When territories thus show themselves able to maintain the peace and support the law without calling upon the general government for aid, it is time they were released from leading strings. The territories and new states of the northwest are to-day better able to maintain law and order and support a strong local government than many of the older states of the union.

If it has cost the defense in the Cronin case \$100,000 before even a full jury has been secured, can anyone tell how much it will cost before the end is reached? Will some one, also, tell us where such a large sum of money comes from to defend the criminals? There has been no popular subscription and no wealthy man has, to public knowledge, supplied the means. There is left no explanation save the natural inference that the money is being secretly raised among the Clan na Gael, and this carries with it the equally strong inference that the Clan na Gael makes itself responsible for the "removal" of Dr. Cronin. So long as matters stand as they do now, the American people will believe that Dr. Cronin was deliberately killed at the behest of a secret society, and that society will be execrated by every decent citizen to the deep injury of the cause it was organized to support. The American people have too strong a love for justice

and law to endorse such conduct as this, and too much good "horse sense" to be deceived in the face of such strong evidence of conspiracy as the incidents of this trial are developing.

Even the devil found a good old Scotch lady to champion his cause, though all she could say was that she did not believe that he was as black as he was painted; therefore it is not surprising to see a column and a half of fulsome flatter of the illustrious brute of Boston in the morning papers, in which his chivalrous treatment of old ladies, boot-blacks and other objects of his tender solicitude is set forth in glowing colors. What a pity it is that Sullivan, the knight errant, can not occasionally come across Sullivan, the bully, and give him a sound thrashing when engaged in some of his pleasantries in the way of knocking down little news boys and waiter girls.

On the sixth of November the people of Idaho will vote upon the question of ratifying or rejecting the constitution recently framed at Boise City. Several elements, especially the Mormons, are opposed to the constitution, and some are opposed to statehood itself. However, there is no doubt a large majority of the territory is in favor of statehood and satisfied with the present constitution, so that there is little question of its adoption. So far as human forecast can go, there seems to be little doubt that Idaho will become a state during the coming session of congress.

Few people are aware of the magnitude the fruit shipping business has attained on the Pacific coast. Thus far this season California and Oregon have shipped to eastern cities 1,288 cars of fruit, enough to make a train nearly three miles long, and yet this is a small quantity compared to the shipments of fresh fruit that will be made ten years hence. When to this are added the thousands of tons of dried prunes, plums, etc., that this region will supply the eastern market, the magnitude our fruit industry is assuming will be better appreciated.

Progress seems to be the watchword everywhere in the west. La Grande, Oregon, and Boise City, Idaho, are both putting in systems of electric lights. In a short time it will be a small and unprogressive town that will not have all the conveniences electricity affords for lighting purposes and transacting business.

The people of Ashland, Wis., have caused the arrest of the chief of police of that city for guaranteeing protection to a prize fight. He ought to move to San Francisco where a police official who patronizes the "manly sport" is reasonably safe.