

A blanket mortgage to cover \$15,000,000 in bonds has been executed by the Oregon Improvement Company, in favor of the Farmers' Loan & Trust Company, to run forty years at four per cent. The property enumerated includes 2,528 acres of coal lands in three districts on Puget sound, 2,243 acres of timber land in the Blue mountains, 3,113 acres of agricultural land in Grande Ronde valley, four large steamers, a coal barge, 19,850 shares of stock in the Pacific Coast Steamship Company, large holdings in several other companies, twenty-one warehouses, wharf and dock property in several cities and real estate in Prescott, Wash., and San Francisco. The object of the deal is to retire six per cent. bonds with four per cent. bonds. With such an opportunity as this gives the Oregon Improvement Company it ought soon to become one of the largest dividend payers in the world. Money in the west commands eight per cent. and ten per cent. for use in business, and with its magnificent holdings and the great development its properties are capable of, the company ought to accomplish wonders on a capital costing but four per cent., less than half what private individuals are paying.

The movement in the south to raise a fund for the benefit of Jefferson Davis in his old age is an eminently proper one. It is fitting that the people of the south should thus show respect for the man who was their chief in the perilous times of their rebellion, and who has in his own person stood much of the brunt of their defeat and the ignominy of their mistaken cause. Nor does this feeling of kindness towards the president of the dead confederacy necessarily indicate that they now hold the same ideas they then held, or are as unreconstructed as he and a few others who have never been reconciled to the death of the cause. Such a feeling of tenderness and respect is entirely consistent with loyalty to the new and better union of states that was cemented with the blood of the flower of both sections, and did they not entertain it they might well be accused of being devoid of those warm impulses and generous thoughts without which true patriotism cannot exist.

Among Mr. Wanamaker's suggestions is one that congress make an appropriation for a postal museum. That's a bright idea on John's part, and this section will cheerfully contribute a few fossil postmasters and living wonders in the persons of postal clerks that would be an attraction in any museum. If some of the department officials at Washington who can't understand why western cities constantly need additional postal facilities while eastern ones go along year after year with the same force—if a few of these will crawl into a glass case on one of the highest and dustiest

shelves, and label it "Fool; Worthless except as a Specimen," we will feel still better pleased.

The infant damnation doctrine of the Presbyterian church was voted out of date at Cincinnati by the Presbytery, by a vote of 22 to 18. From this time on the Presbyterians will let Christ have his own way with those of whom he said, "Of such is the Kingdom of Heaven," unless they chance to be born with a pair of lungs sufficiently vigorous to keep them alive until the age of infancy is passed, when they propose to have them damned whether He likes it or not, unless they adopt Presbyterian ideas of theology.

Among other good things the Washington legislature has under consideration is a stringent measure prohibiting prize fighting and "glove contests." It will not be long before California and Texas will be the only states where a premium is offered upon brutality. Washington is shaping legislation that will invite the brainy and energetic to make their homes within her borders, and not the riff-raff and scum of eastern cities that flock to the pugilist's paradise.

All the provinces of Brazil have given in their adherence to the new republican form of government, and the prospect of Germany being able to satisfy her gnawing appetite for colonial possessions by swallowing some of them do not appear very bright. They would probably not rest well on Germany's stomach in any event, and she might be compelled to take another Samoan emetic.

The discovery of another extensive "cache" of fossils in Eastern Oregon again reminds us that the present ones that afflict us have woefully shrunk in size since the days of these giants of the race. Some of them are about the smallest specimens, mentally and physically, now extant, and they are yearly growing smaller, and, thank heaven, less extant.

The discovery of two knives that belonged to Dr. Cronin on the person of Coughlin when he was arrested, a fact that has just come to light, is one of the strongest evidences against that arch-conspirator, and is another example of how unconsciously a criminal will carry about with him useless evidences of his crime.

President Harrison and his cabinet expressed themselves as thankful for a multitude of blessings too indefinite to be specified; but the probabilities are that above the general chant rises a psalm of thanks that the democratic tidal wave occurred in the year 1889 instead of the year before.