

With his usual, one might say invariable, inaccuracy, Jonquin Miller thus speaks in a press letter of Oregon City: "You may remember that Oregon City sat down fifty years ago to wait for some one to use her wonderful water privilege. It is still idle, with the exception that Portland, twelve miles distant, is using the Oregon City falls as the factor in her electric light system." That Oregon City has been slow to improve her royal gift, and that she does not yet sufficiently realize that even such a wonderful water power as hers needs the push and energy of enterprising and earnest workers to bring it to the front, is a fact, but still the inane condition credited her by the windy Miller is far from being hers. With three flour mills, woolen mill, cement mill, excelsior mill, shoddy mill, paper pulp mill and sulphite mill already in operation and two paper mills under construction, it would appear that creating electric lights for Portland is not the only use made of the falls. Jonquin's reputation was not made by telling the truth, and it seems that he proposes to sustain it by patching it with the same kind of timber of which it was originally constructed.

Appearances seem to indicate that the lease of the Seal islands by the Alaska Commercial Co., will be renewed by Secretary Windom, but with such additional conditions as will remove some of the objections urged against the one now in force. There seems to be no good reason why this should not be done. The taking of seals must be restricted within certain limits, and this company is better prepared to carry out the conditions imposed than any other. The question of protecting seals in the open Behring sea, must, however, be also settled satisfactorily to preserve that animal from extinction.

What a leap is that from plain Ed. Schnitzer, the Austrian student, to formidable Emin Pasha, of the Egyptian army! Who would recognize in the public accounts of one any resemblance of the other? Ed. Schnitzer went to Egypt and there was known as Doctor Emin. He became associated with General Gordon and was made governor in the Soudan country—Emin Bey. In the last act he is Emin Pasha. Republics are surely not the only places where ambition has a chance to spread itself.

The provisional government in Brazil is learning the old American axiom that, "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty" in a way that will impress it upon the minds of those who must hold the reins of power until the constitutional election next fall. They may learn that they have severed with their teeth just a trifle more than they can masticate. The "Boulangier of Brazil" has his hands full.

"Single Tax" is the heading of an article in nearly every daily paper in the country at least once a week. When the whole thing is boiled down it seems to mean to "single" out for taxation the man who owns a few acres of land and let all others escape. It finds its most enthusiastic advocates among men who are not land owners, and who can thus admire the beauties of the system unhampered with thoughts of the assessor's annual visit.

The silver lining to Montana's political cloud is beginning to appear. It seems that already the two Dakotas have bankrupted their treasuries, and the Washington legislature is apparently on the high road to do the same for that state. Montana's legislature being unorganized can make no appropriations, and this may save the state treasury from hopeless wreck. It will not be long before Washington and the Dakotas will covet Montana's little political rumpus.

There are a number of papers in Washington that remind one of the old Tennessee mountaineer who had not heard of the war. They still proclaim in their headings that they are published in "Washington Territory." By the time the legislature has appropriated money enough to swamp the treasury these papers will feel justified in assuming that Washington has really become a state.

A few days ago the Czar was frightened into a fit of sickness by the sudden extinction of the electric lights in his palace. This is sad. He ought to change places with Kemmler, the condemned New York man, who sincerely hopes there will never be another current of electricity set in motion. Even electricity fails to please everyone.

Intricate as the negro question is in the south, no one can say that it is not approaching a solution when such deeds as that at Barnwall are committed. The heartless lynchers may not realize it, but such conduct is pushing the question towards a solution with lightning speed.

A man's previous career ought to count for something in his reception in a new town. Walla Walla took to her bosom a man who had previously run himself out of several other communities, and now she wishes she had inquired into his antecedents.

Denver lays claim to aristocratic tendencies by asserting the presence of the royally patronized influenza in her midst. It is probably a bogus claim founded upon a job lot of hay fever left over from the last tourist season.