

The late Dr. T. T. Minor was a scrupulously honest, careful and shrewd business man, and this makes the fact that all his life insurance was in comparatively unknown companies seem doubly strange. One of them, the Northwestern Marine Aid Association, of Chicago, seems to be a wild cat, throat cutting concern such as all good business men would be expected to shun. It has refused to pay the loss until indisputable proofs of death have been furnished. As Dr. Minor was drowned while attempting to cross Puget sound in an open boat during a storm, it is more than probable that his body will never be recovered. However, the body of one of his companions was found, which ought to be evidence enough to satisfy every insurance company doing business on honest principles. Happily Dr. Minor left an estate that frees his family from any dependence upon life insurance; still, the incident supplies another warning to people who pass by old and tried companies and trust the welfare of their families in the keeping of wild cat insurance organizations like this Chicago fraud.

Which truly represents the people of Oregon on the silver question, Dolph or Mitchell? Dolph made a long and able speech in the senate against unrestricted coinage of silver, and was listened to with close attention by his fellow senators. When he took his seat Mitchell arose and stated that Mr. Dolph did not voice the sentiment of the people of Oregon. Did he? Is there any way of finding out which truly represents his state, which speaks his inmost convictions, and which is simply trying to "keep in the swim" for policy's sake?

The United States government is showing her friendly consideration for Brazil by ordering Admiral Walker's squadron of iron clads into Brazilian waters. At the same time England shows us the distinguished courtesy of sending four more torpedo vessels to the North American squadron. Russia also compliments Germany by ordering another army corps to occupy the German frontier. Military and naval courtesy are overpowering.

If departed spirits keep posted upon mundane affairs, it must please the shade of John Roach to know that his assignees are to be paid the money wrongly withheld from him by Secretary Whitney on the *Dolphin* contract. But how much better it would have been, not only for Roach, but the entire country, had the money been paid when due, and the appointment of assignees and death of Roach averted.

Mr. W. H. Dunston, an American resident of St. Petersburg, and "head of the firm which prints all of

Russia's paper money"—certainly a most disinterested authority—says George Kennan's account of the exile system is sensational and untrue. Happily Kennan has proof of what he says that will bear down the denial of any un-Americanized American who "hangs on princes' favors."

What a calamity has befallen Tacoma! Train failed to encircle the globe in sixty days. Those who supposed the future greatness of that city depended upon the success of this globe-trotting crank naturally looked for a complete collapse, yet the work of building a large and beautiful city goes right along as vigorously as ever. The fate of Tacoma does not hang on an abandoned Train.

If Stanford's scheme of lending government money on land at half its assessed value is adopted by congress, Oregon assessors will have a hard job fixing values so that a farmer on one side of the road can have his land assessed high for a government loan and the one on the other side low for taxation. There's fun ahead for some one.

The *modus vivendi* between England and France in the New Foundland matter threatens to be a *crux belli* in Canada; though if they ever get to fighting over it they will probably drop Latin and fight in Canadian English and mongrel French.

They do not "smile" nor "irrigate" nor take a "snorter" any more in Iowa and Kansas. They simply "absorb an original package," each one of which should be labeled "With the compliments of the U. S. supreme court."

From the cautious way the Presbyterian General Assembly is handling the question of creed revision it is hardly safe for a man to die for a year or two yet unless he has assurances that he is elected.

The "brotherhood" and "league" base ball associations spent the winter and spring in casting reflections upon each other, and now there is hardly enough left of either of them to cast a shadow.

If Senator Ingalls plagiarizes his brilliant sayings it is a wonder that some of his envious critics do not plunge into some of the same musty volumes and say a bright thing or two occasionally.

The worst shock electric execution is likely to give anyone is that experienced by the high-priced lawyers now arguing against it before the New York supreme court.