

West Shore

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

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1890.

There will be no recount in Oregon.

Organize an Oregon Exhibit Association.

America's effort to test the McKinley bill by the apple crop is entitled to the leather medal.

The census superintendent has not produced much that is worth anything, but he would make a splendid ex-Porter.

For the next two weeks the colored cartoons on the last page will be compelled to give place to illustrations of the two great expositions now in progress at Portland and Spokane Falls.

The *Adele*, one of the two vessels now poaching in Behring sea, and which the government has dispatched the *Bertha* to capture, is the same vessel whose piratical voyage last fall was described and illustrated in WEST SHORE of June 7, last.

If civilization has cried out against Siberian exile of Russians for political offense, it must raise a stronger voice of protest against the same inhuman treatment of Jews for no offense whatever except being the victims of an ignoble, barbaric, inherited race prejudice.

If those romantic people who dote on the silver moon and envy the heavens the possession of that luminary will only have a little patience they can have their desire gratified, for under present conditions we will soon have silver enough in this country to make a moon of our own.

Whitecaps in Alabama expressed their virtuous indignation and deep seated morality, by taking a woman suspected of looseness of habits from her house at midnight and dispatching her with buckshot. The kingdom of heaven is coming at a rapid rate in that enlightened community, and will doubtless catch the benighted residents of other localities unawares.

If the American people can be convinced that the money will not be diverted from purely charitable to political uses, the response they will make to the appeal for aid for famishing Ireland will be such an outpouring of gifts as the world has never seen. Let entirely trustworthy channels for the flowing of their charity be provided, and it will become a mighty stream.

Oregonians have a kindly feeling for Jessie Benton Fremont; not because she was the wife of the Pathfinder, but because she is the daughter of Old Tom Benton, who did more to make Oregon free American soil than any man living or dead. They want a chance to help in the movement on foot to make his gifted daughter's remaining days free from care.

Life is not altogether dull and spiritless in the camp of a railroad engineering party, for it must be great amusement to stuff inquisitive newsgathers. That is the place where half the wild and senseless railroad rumors originate. A dispatch from some out-of-the-way point, saying that an engineering party is working there and that the chief says it is an advance party of the W. X. Y. Z. road, should be taken with a whole sack of salt.

The time is at hand when papers, magazines and reviews will be filled with long disquisitions upon the great changes in social and other conditions

revealed by the late—also lamented—census. After puzzling their brains to invent new theories to account for some of the wonderful revelations of Porter's work, the statisticians, philosophers and social scientists will dis-charge broadside after broadside at us, and then wonder why we are not annihilated. They will soon learn that their failure is due to the utterly valueless and inaccurate census upon which their speculations are based.

No one questions the motives that have induced the charitable founders, supporters, and managers of the Baby Home in East Portland to undertake and perform their arduous, and often thankless, task; yet it is true that no such institution should be a law unto itself and free from supervision by some constituted authority representing the people. It ought to be incorporated as a state institution and placed under state supervision. This does not necessarily imply that the state shall in any way contribute to its support. The members of the legislature from Multnomah county should take this matter in hand.

It is rather surprising to see a great daily paper condemning the duel as a means of avenging one's dishonor and upholding murder in its stead. Honor cuts no figure in such a case. It is nothing but private vengeance executed in a brutal, cowardly way. We look for such things among the savages, but not where the light of nineteenth century civilization gleams. No man's life belongs to another, and no fancied, or real, injury to one's honor can justify the taking of it, even in a duel, certainly not by cowardly murder. The press owes a higher duty to society than to preach the doctrine of murder for the gratification of revenge for any cause whatever.

If Oregon's display at the Centennial is to be pointed at as an evidence of the qualification of Mr. Wilkins, then, indeed, has his incapacity been demonstrated. That Mr. Klippel is a man of ability and desires to do well for the state, WEST SHORE has no doubt; but his opportunities, shut up as he has been in Southern Oregon for years, to become familiar with the ideas and methods of the great business world without, have been too limited to qualify him for the position. This whole matter should be put in the hands of business men who have had their ideas expanded by contact with the world, and who have not only the training necessary to enable them to comprehend what must be done, but the experience that fits them for the task of accomplishing it.

The director general of the World's Columbian Exposition has begun his duties well and sensibly by addressing a courteous letter to the press of the country asking for its hearty and unreserved support. Certain local papers in Chicago violently opposed Mr. Davis before his appointment and have soundly berated both him and the directors since, simply, as it appears from their own statements, because he has been a successful political manipulator in the interest of a party not their own. In opposing him for this reason they are themselves dragging politics into the question, the very thing they affect to deplore. The facts are that George R. Davis is a pushing, enterprising man, with large ideas and possessing great organizing and executive ability, and the papers opposing him in Chicago will do more good, both to the fair and their city, by stopping their snarling at the director general and setting a good example to the outside press by doing all in their power to assist him in accomplishing the most arduous task an American has yet undertaken.

If "Clara Belle" has actually associated with some of the women she writes so intimately about, or has witnessed or participated in some of the scenes she depicts for the delectation of her presumed lady readers, she must be hanging upon the ragged edge of the demi-monde. Some of her letters are the vilest slanders upon the ladies of New York, since they credit them with the conduct of such people as no lady would stoop to recognize as associates. It is such stuff as this, in which the writer wanders as near the border of the absolutely indecent as possible, in order to make her letters "interesting," calling largely upon her imagination for her facts, that is chiefly responsible for the growing belief that society ladies are less pure and modest than they should be. Such letters, published in the Sunday and weekly papers, going unreservedly into families, bearing the appearance of truth, and written in "chatty" and meretriciously suggestive language, do more harm than all the "indecent" books ever published. Doubtless many ladies are led to read them by reason of other things that attract their attention, but it is equally doubtless that their regular readers are those who are nearly as far from the pale of society and the charmed circle of true womanhood as the creatures whose actions she describes, and those of the opposite sex who are always upon the lookout for something "shady" to read. Truly, woman's greatest enemy is woman.

Nothing is more typical of the condition Oregon has been in the past few years than Bunyan's Slough of Despond, from which the struggling Christian was pulled by the strong hand of Helpful. The young and vigorous Enterprise is now pulling struggling Oregon from the Slough of Moss-