

PORT ORFORD POST.

THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1881.

Stabbing Affray--Lynching.

Last Saturday, says the W. W. Statesman, a fatal stabbing affray occurred at Ainsworth, W. T. It appears that an opium den existed in that place which was an eyesore and a source of trouble to the residents. To get rid of the den was the question of the day, but no feasible means presenting themselves it was left to run along until Friday when the house was burned down causing some little excitement in the town.

The next day while the dying embers were giving up their last columns of smoke, a man named Alonzo Babb, better known as Lon Babb or Skagit passed by and paused awhile to view the ruins. He had only been there a few moments when one Osborn, alias "Black Dick" slipped up behind him and drawing a four inch dirk, made three or four lunges at Babb, stabbing him in the back, each lunge penetrating Babb's lungs. Babb immediately fell and lost all consciousness; he was carried away while the town officer took "Black Dick" and locked him up in an improvised guard house. By this time the population of Ainsworth were intensely excited. About 1 o'clock at night an armed body of men wearing masks marched to the guard house, took the prisoner out of jail, marched a short distance out of town, and suspended him to a fence frame. Osborn begged piteously for his life, but no attention was paid to his pleadings.

The leading citizens of Ainsworth approve of the course of the vigilantes as Osborn was a very bad man, while Babb, who was quiet and inoffensive had a great many friends.

Osborn was suspected of robbing a saloon, and a general merchandise store at Baker city a short time ago. He then came to Pendleton and in a row over a poker game with one "Butch" a gambler, drew a revolver and pointing it at his head pulled the trigger, but the pistol hung fire. He was fined \$10 and costs. He then went to Walla Walla and from thence to Ainsworth.

Alonzo Babb is a son of Dr. Babb of Eugene City, Or., an old gentleman who is highly respected in that community.

On Sunday afternoon quite a number of citizens met and the result was quite a number of bad characters were given notice to leave the city, an invitation which was accepted with alacrity by Doc Heaton, Bill Tillard and several others of the same stripe. They are determined to keep such characters out of the city hereafter.—Pendleton Tribune.

In population, Oregon is ahead of two States, Delaware and Nevada; but while it of course leads all the Territories, it is left behind by the District of Columbia by 2,871, souls.

The reduction of the public debt for March was \$5,000,000.

Kirkwood is following in the wake of his predecessor in the matter of unearthing land frauds in Dakota. General Fessenden of Michigan, a practical Engineer of high standing, is to be surveyor-General. Letcher, a member of the present Ohio Legislature, will be Register. Both will go out with full instructions to remedy the swindling of the poor settlers so long carried on by land-sharks. Secretary Schurz last fall sent out detectives who discovered endless cases of fraud. He reported as one of principals J. D. Cameron of Sioux Falls, who grew wealthy in lands, against whom ten indictments are now pending. Cameron's counsel is now the Delegate from Dakota, and who made an attack upon the detective by representing him as drunk all the time he was in the Territory. The Delegate also fought the new appointment, but Kirkwood is in earnest. It is believed at the Land Office that a quantity of public domain along the Northern Pacific has been illegally obtained.

A recent telegram states that there is now massed in the vaults of the Treasury Department a larger amount of gold than was ever known to be in one place in history, in modern times, at least, and probably more than could be authenticated as existing in a single Treasury at any time before in the world. There is now about \$173,000,000 in gold coin and bullion, exclusive of some \$50,000,000 in silver while the Bank of England has only about \$75,000,000 in gold. What is more singular is that it stays in the vaults, no matter what is the demand for as fast as it is paid out it returns, showing that as long as confidence is maintained it is not the favorite currency.

The telegrams state that the April conference of the Mormon Church was not so well attended as usual, nor was the interest so great. The necessity of loving their religion and practising polygamy was firmly impressed upon the saints, who have been very much encouraged over the decision of the Miles case in their favor by the Supreme Court of the United States. About 100 missionaries were set apart for work in the United States and Europe. Of this number 25 are to be sent to Arizona which Territory the Mormon Church is determined to control politically.

Secretary Windom says he has concluded what course to pursue relative to the maturing bonds, but could not make it public until completed. Beyond this nothing official can be learned. Various rumors are afloat as to the nature of the decision, purporting to have originated in official circles, but the Secretary denies having indicated any.

C. A. Sayers, a prisoner in the Lane county jail, broke out and would have escaped had not an intelligent New Foundland dog belonging to Zack Moore, held him by the surplus of his pantaloons.

The United States District Attorney at Salt Lake City recommends the repeal of the absurd law of limitation as to bigamy which now enables a Mormon to marry as many wives as he wants, provided he keeps every marriage secret for three years. He thinks that, with such repeal, three-fourths of the polygamous leaders can be punished. He recommends also, the disfranchisement of polygamists as violators of the Federal laws. He also advises that Congress shall pass a law forbidding and punishing adultery and lewd and lascivious cohabitation in the Territories, and define the offenses so there can be no doubt of their applicability to those who are living with plural wives, besides giving the first or legal wife the right to testify. These are excellent recommendations, and they have been placed before successive Congresses in the shape of bills for years, but Congress turns its back on them and has not dared to do its duty. The law passed in 1862 seems to have been constructed on purpose to give the Mormons a good chance to practice their animalism as long as they desire.—Louisville Journal.

Since the adoption of the new system of calls by the members of telephone offices many mistakes have occurred on account of wrong connections, and some have resulted in amusing conversations. Friday the telephone bell rang in a prominent business house and the proprietor proceeds to attend to the summons. A female voice was heard, and the following questions and answers ensued: "Hello." "Yes." "What time are you coming home to supper to night?" "Why I have been to supper." "I'd just like to know whom you took supper with." "Why, my wife of course." "How many wives have you, anyway?" "Look here, whom do you think you are talking with?" "With my husband Mr. —." "Not much; you are talking to Mr. —." Upon this the gentleman heard a scream, which appeared to be echoed by a number of other ladies in the same room.

Much difficulty is experienced in obtaining laborers for railroads being constructed through Colorado. The Denver and Rio Grande alone require from five to ten thousand laborers for the grading of five hundred miles of extension which they have in Colorado and adjoining Territories. They offer work at about two dollars per day to able bodied men, who apply at either Denver or South Pueblo. New extensions are projected which on completion of those now under way, will give employment to a large force.

At the commencement of Judge Shaw's term of office, less than 3 years ago, Marion county was \$40,000 in debt, to-day it owes not a penny and has \$13,000 to collect.

For over two years two parties have been fighting in the courts of Yamhill county for the possession of a calf, and have spent money enough to buy a whole drove of steers.

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