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Portland, Saturday, Feb. 8, 1900.

THE KENTUCKY TRAGEDIES.

The Roseburg Review tells those who read it that "The Oregonian justified the murder of Governor Goebel of Kentucky." Some persons have the habit of lying, and perhaps can't help it.

But The Oregonian has not forgotten to state another part of the truth; and this is what annoys the Roseburg Review. It has set forth the fact that Goebel has fallen by the same bloody code of private vengeance which he did not hesitate to invoke a few years ago.

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test to future generations the pride of the people of Oregon in her soldier sons who perished in the country's service.

LEASES OF GOVERNMENT LANDS.

It is evident that a distinction must be drawn between the forestry project of leasing reserves to stockmen, and the apparently similar but radically different proposal contemplated in Senator Foster's bill providing for lease of "the vacant public lands west of the 96th meridian of longitude, west from Greenwich, as in the judgment of the secretary of agriculture are more valuable for grazing than for other purposes."

If Senator Foster has been led into any such trap, he can be relied upon to set himself right at the earliest opportunity. His bill is, on the surface, a scheme to turn over to the stockmen the country between the Pacific ocean and a line running north and south through Lincoln, Neb. A sop is thrown to the states in the proposal to divide with them the receipts from the leases.

No part of this revenue can be devoted to the range lands, for they will be incumbered by their owners and given over to stock. Lands not requiring irrigation will not need government aid for their development. While the bill provides that leases shall be for the "smallest area compatible with the best utilization of the land for grazing purposes," authority is given the secretary of agriculture to "consolidate areas of grazing lands for leasing." Practically, the bill places no limit on the areas which stockmen may lease. No such unrestricted authority should be given, nor, it goes without saying, will it be given.

Unnecessary alarm seems to be indulged, also, concerning the "doom of the homeseeker." No permanent occupation, inimical to agricultural settlement, could be tolerated; but it is not necessary or even truthful to picture the entire grazing area of the West as besieged by an army of intending stockmen.

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ly removed all irresponsible men armed with muskets from the statehouse. There were now two legislatures. The republican organization promptly appealed to the state supreme court to decide whether they were "Carrelion" organization was a legal body.

The republican state convention, June 23, 1880, in its resolutions, charged the fusion party with trying to steal the state government by most outrageous frauds and forgeries upon the election returns; and placing an armed mob in the statehouse and bringing up to the brink of civil war; with counting in men not elected and counting out men that were elected; with conspiracy to set aside the election and create a fraudulent government.

HOMICIDAL INSANITY.

Dr. Walter Channing, in a letter to the Boston Herald, suggests to city boards of health and town authorities "to be used for irrigation and other agricultural development." No part of this revenue can be devoted to the range lands, for they will be incumbered by their owners and given over to stock.

The exhibit of the scope and resources of the Baker county mines is rich not only in facts that have already been demonstrated, but in the possibilities of development that lie very near the surface of events. Every industry in touch with a vast section—stockraising, wheatgrowing, lumbering—all of the interests of a diversified agriculture, will profit by the development of the wealth of this wonderful mineral region.

Colonel Edwin M. Coates, Seventh United States Infantry, was retired for age on the 29th ult. Colonel Coates entered the 29th ult. Army as first lieutenant of the Eleventh New York volunteers (Ellsworth's Fire Zouaves), May 7, 1861; became captain, army August 5, 1861; became major of the Twelfth Infantry in 1865; major of the Nineteenth Infantry in July, 1869; lieutenant-colonel of the Sixteenth Infantry in November, 1893, and colonel of the Seventh Infantry in 1898. Colonel Coates was stationed in the Sixteenth Infantry for several years at Fort Sherman and at Boise barracks, Idaho. Colonel Coates was brevetted for gallant services at the battle of the Wilderness and in the campaign before Petersburg in the civil war.

The bill of Senator Simon providing for the enlargement of the Portland postoffice represents a special and palatable which the cramped quarters in which the hampered employees of the postal department are compelled to do their work in this city is creditable to the government and very trying to the men. The relief asked for will, no doubt, in due time (which in such cases means some time) be granted, since there is no question as to its necessity.

A New York paper headed an account of Bryan's recent visit to that city with the line, "Bryan Here; He Talks." The superfluity of the last two words is apparent. It can only be supposed that they were added to meet arbitrary "head line" rules of the composing-room. As well say of a man, "He is alive; he breathes."

Boers are said to be fond of holding prayer meetings in their camps. Their dependence upon powder is, however, made known whenever there is an opportunity to deliver a few shots at the soldiers clad in khaki.

PRECEDENTS OF A CENTURY.

Against These Quay Offers the Grave Claim of Being a Good Fellow.

The constitution says: "If no candidate for the senate or otherwise during the recess of the legislature of any state, the executive thereof may fill temporary appointments until the next meeting of the legislature, which shall then fill such vacancies." The expiration of the senatorial term of Matthew S. Quay, March 4, 1899, no successor having been elected, created a vacancy. The Pennsylvania legislature, which convened in January, remained in session until April 20. It failed to elect a senator, and the day after it adjourned the governor of Pennsylvania appointed Quay to fill a vacancy which it is evident did not exist during the recess of the legislature. It occurred while that body was in session.

not in fighting trim is no nation. England has become very rich, but wealth isn't all. Croesus was rich, and showed his mighty heaps of gold to Solon, who said: "That's big money, but some man will come along with stronger iron than yours and England finds she must sharpen up her iron."

The execution of Magers at Dallas yesterday ended a very painful experience for Governor Geer. In a sense, respite from anguish of the mother and other family relatives of the condemned murderer, and vindicated the majesty of the law. The condition of alternating hope and fear in which the condemned man and his family have dwelt for some weeks, superinduced by the strenuous efforts of counsel and friends to secure commutation of the death penalty, has been most trying. Not a good fellow, though on different lines, has been the situation of the governor, who, in the conscientious discharge of his duty, has been forced to deny the impassioned appeal of the heartbroken mother of the criminal and witness the pathetic misery of others of his blood, when finally convinced that there was no hope of executive intervention.

While the young man went to his doom protesting his innocence, his guilt had been clearly established to the minds of two juries that had patiently heard and impartially weighed the evidence of the killings. The crime was a deliberate one, committed from mercenary motives. There was no break in the chain of evidence upon which Magers was convicted, and no reasonable doubt of his guilt. Under the circumstances, the governor could not be true to his obligation to the commonwealth and turn aside the penalty in this case. The mother is entitled to the consideration of the pitiful plea of the girl, but she has been brought, the first impulse of which is thankfulness that the ordeal is over.

A letter printed today exposes a scheme to find a way for extorting from Multnomah county the money paid in by the classes of taxpayers who, in former years, sought "grace" in the matter of payment, and gladly paid 2 per cent to get it. It is proposed now to sue the county to recover the 2 per cent costs. The letter referred to deals plainly with the subject. It is not an attempt proceeding now on the part of those who seek themselves of a paid favor offered by the county, to try to repudiate it. They had the benefit, upon their own solicitation; the county is a loser already through the favor it granted them, since it has had to pay out interest, on account of their delinquency, in larger amount than the sum of the added costs it collected. This proposal now to sue the county is an audacious one; and it is difficult to see how it can be abetted by any man of standing or character.

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the clause quoted above should be construed as meaning that whenever there is a vacancy the governor shall have the power to fill it, even though it happened while the legislature was in session and that body deliberately refused to elect a senator. They strain the language to make it agree with the assumed "intent." The precedents are against this contention. Never yet has the senate recognized the right of a state executive to make a temporary appointment where the vacancy opened occurred during a session of the legislature. The first case to come before the senate was in 1784. A Delaware senator resigned in December. The legislature was to meet in January. The governor made an appointment. It met in January and adjourned in February without electing a senator. Then the governor made an appointment. The senate decided the appointee had no right to a seat, and the legislature having intervened between the resignation of his predecessor and his appointment. Of the members of the senate who voted on this case, only a few members of the federal convention. Four of them voted that the governor had no power to appoint. So the rule has been from that day to this.

Again, an unbroken array of precedents the friends of Quay set up an interpretation of the constitution which four of its framers repudiated, and the potent fact that Quay is a "good fellow" with some of them over other considerations. That is an argument which never was advanced before in support of a claim to a seat in the senate. It may have force enough in Quay's case to induce the senate to reverse all previous decisions.

SUBSIDIES INEFFECTIVE.

Claims on Their Behalf Will Not Bear Investigation. The Journal of Commerce was glad to see American steamers traversing every sea and carrying their members of our own commerce and a good part of the commerce of other nations; it would be glad to see this upon one proviso, and that is that it should be profitable; that is, that it should earn less than its cost. If it should earn less than its cost the country would lose the difference, whether the loss fell upon the shipowners or whether the rest of the population were to reimburse them. If it would be there, no matter who paid for it.

This paper does not believe that it is sound public policy to take out of the treasury funds raised by taxation and use them for the purpose of subsidizing a private business to cover their losses. The argument that the subsidy is a logical part of the protective system is specious. Evidently the country does not believe in it, for it has not done so for many years. It has only occasionally, and for brief periods, prepared subsidies. The tariff law is a law for providing the government with a revenue; the subsidy is a law for depriving the government of its revenue; they are not analogous.

There is another distinction; the carrying trade is in the very nature of the case exposed to the greatest competition; therefore it presents an entirely different aspect from a domestic manufacture. The advocates of subsidies talk about meeting British competition, but England is competitor of Norway, and Norway is growing faster than that of any other country. The commissioner of navigation has published comparative statistics to show the loss of our shipping to the British flag. The cost under the British flag is less than under the American, but it is still less under the German, and least of all under the Norwegian flag. From the point of view of history, the main pursuit of peoples that had little chance to invest their labor and capital on land. We have been on the sea; we have left it for more profitable pursuits, and now it is our duty to have with the help of taxation, are we going to meet only British competition, or are we going to face the competition of Norway and other nations? How far are we prepared to go in this dangerous direction?

There are two reasons why we do not compete with foreign merchants. Our cost is more to build and they cost more to operate. But the chief reason is the fact that labor is better paid and capital more productive here than abroad. Therefore, there is less necessity here than abroad for taxing people to support this industry. If we have dropped it for occupations that pay better. But a country that is exporting locomotives to every quarter of the globe will not be long in building steamers as cheaply as the British or German flag. We have demonstrated in most forms of production that high wages are consistent with a low cost of labor will not be permanently kept off the sea by the fact that our wages are higher than those abroad. As we are now competing with Europe in most lines of production we are by a natural and wholesome course of economic development approaching the time when we shall be able to compete upon the sea with the rest of the world.

Subsidies are wholly ineffective. We have tried them and abandoned them. Not over 10 per cent of the British or German tonnage remains in our hands. The government, and in both cases the ships frequently earn all they get by speed and frequency of sailings. France, which has adopted the universal bounty system now proposed upon our government, is completing its absolute utility and is proposing the second increase of rates of bounty in 20 years because the French mercantile marine is not even holding its own. No person who can reason, supposes that our merchant vessels can be supported by the government for 20 years and then be in a condition to meet foreign competition. They will have to be supported by an increasing amount of assistance until the system gets too heavy to be borne and breaks down.

Because the carrying trade is wholly unlike a domestic manufacture, we have insisted that the protective system is inapplicable. We have proposed that the American line and other American corporations that now own and operate foreign steamships should be permitted to put their own flag over their own property. This would not serve the interests of the shipbuilders, but the latter have an absolute monopoly of the coastwise trade, and the foreign trade is inherently a business. Americans are not now prevented from buying foreign ships; if they desire American registry we see no reason why they should not have it. It would probably increase the investment of American capital in the carrying trade. If it did not it would be quite time enough then to inquire what should be done next.

But there is one fundamental fact that can never be gotten away from: If it be unprofitable for Americans to engage in the carrying trade now it will be unprofitable after they have been reimbursed for their losses; nothing will be changed except the losses. In carrying the carrying has got to be internationally competitive, and we suggest, for the present at least, that Americans who desire to engage in that trade be permitted to procure the tonnage for their ships as they wish to do. The fact is that they can and do practice this now, but under foreign flags. If they prefer their own flag we can imagine no reason for denying it to them. The shipbuilders can learn to meet foreign competition just as well as the makers of steel rails or locomotives or agricultural machinery and of a hundred other articles have already learned to meet it.

THE OREGONIAN'S ANNUAL.

Prosperous Oregon. Newburgh (N. Y.) News. The Portland Oregonian, a journal that would be a credit to any state in this Union, celebrated the close of the most prosperous year Oregon has yet known by publishing a special edition (80 pages) with one of the largest and finest illustrated supplements ever issued from an American newspaper office.

It is our contemporary's belief that Oregon now has a population of about 450,000. She did not receive many immigrants last year, but those who came to her were just to her mind—native-born Americans from the Middle West, and a sprinkling of Yankees, homemakers with plenty of money in their pockets. All her towns are growing steadily and healthily, and all of them are practicing a strict economy in their civic affairs.

The people outside the town were never better off than now. Last year's yield of the Oregon farms, ranges, orchards and dairies is given as \$65,500,000. The lumber cut mounted up to \$65,500,000 feet; value, \$5,225,000. The state's output of manufactured products, all kinds, is estimated at over \$55,000,000. The yield of gold was \$3,200,000, of silver \$12,140,000, of coal \$24,140,000. The fisheries did business last year to the extent of \$2,440,000. The Oregonian remarks: "Demand for stock never was better. The only check to larger trading in this industry is the inability of stockmen to meet the demands of buyers. Horticulture is passing from the control of the careless and the negligent and into the hands of men who will give scientific management to orchards. Mining is out of the experimental stage in every section of Oregon where mineral is found, and the era of large production has dawned. The only un satisfactory condition is the slow growth of manufacturing. So long as our people continue to ship hops, wool and high-grade lumber to the East and buy them back, with transcontinental freights added, as bacon, clothing and furniture, just so long will industrial development drag."

Portland had its share of the general prosperity. It will soon have 100,000 inhabitants at the rate it is growing. Its commerce in 12 months was \$2,190,000. Its jobbing trade reached \$10,000,000. A gain of 35 per cent from the year before. Its bank clearings were \$1,653,200. December 31st savings banks had individual deposits aggregating \$4,625,572. The new buildings put up last year represent an expenditure of \$485,500, and the sales of real estate amounted to \$3,065,583.

We hope that 1900 will treat Oregon and Oregon's big city and Oregon's big newspaper even better than 1899 did.

Wide Variety of Interests. St. Paul (Minn.) Globe.

The special edition of The Portland Oregonian, bearing date of January 1, 1900, in its 60 printed pages, offers a comprehensive exposition, past, present and future, of the industries and resources of the state of Oregon and of the country outside tributary to the city of Portland. A half-tone supplement, covering a wide variety of interests, is a notable feature of a most meritorious publication. The Pacific Northwest, in this annual review, receives treatment entirely adequate to so important and progressive a section of the country.

Has Done Yeoman Work. Kingston (Ontario) Whig.

The Portland Oregonian is one of the most enterprising of Western journals, a daily paper that has done yeoman work in building up the great and glorious West. The annual number is to hand, and it is of special interest. It contains over 150 illustrations, printed on the finest of toned paper. These views embrace all the noted scenic attractions of Oregon and cover every important industry of the Pacific Northwest. In addition, there is a wealth of information and statistics showing the growth and development of the West.

Few and Far Between. Lowell (Mass.) Courier.

It has been a long time since we have seen a finer annual than that issued by The Morning Oregonian, of Portland, Or. It contains over 600 illustrations, printed on the finest quality of enameled paper, and the views embrace all of the noted scenic attractions of Oregon, and cover every important industry of the Pacific Northwest. In addition, there is a wealth of information and statistics showing the growth and development of the West.

Sousa's Idea of an Ideal Band. Chicago Tribune.

John Philip Sousa, the band leader, who will take his band with him to the Paris exposition upon the invitation of Commissioner-General Peck for service every day of the fair and for special service at the unveiling of the Lafayette statue on July 4 and the French national fête on July 14, contributes to the current number of the Independent his idea as to what an ideal band should be. He says that it does not exist and most likely never will. "To attain the ideal in the band and orchestra," he says, "we must have perfection of leadership, perfection of players and perfection of instruments. These are unquestionably essential factors of the ideal band, but Mr. Sousa overlooks another important factor. Granted the perfect leader, perfect players and perfect instruments, how about the perfect music? If Mr. Sousa had this trinity of perfection at his hands, would he continue to perform that monotonous succession of two-step, rag-time, cakewalk and pop-porrits that popular hymn tunes which now constitute the staple of his repertory? If so it would hardly be worth while for Mr. Sousa to have an ideally perfect band."

Scows That Pass in the Night. Detroit Free Press.

Jacques leaned over the gunwale of the bathtub as she floated lazily down the Detroit river. He smoked his pipe. Pierre hung over the rail of the scow that was up and bound. In the moonlight the two boatmen recognized each other. "Hello Pierre! How you get along?" "Oh, I been get along. How you get along?" "Oh, I been get along, too." "How you seek fairer get along, Jacques?" "My fairer? Oh, she get along. She been died last week."

Pedigree. Philadelphia Press.

"One of my ancestors," said the haughty Miss May Flowerstock, "was driven out of England for religious reasons." "Huh!" retorted the unassuming Miss Jones, "two of mine were driven out of the Garden of Eden for the same reason."

NOTE AND COMMENT.

After a stern chase Great Britain has caught a Tartar. If no news is good news, London ought to be celebrating today. Whatever happens, neither side in Kentucky can reasonably be expected to take water.

If the cold snap in Chicago freezes the drainage canal it will be St. Louis' day to celebrate. R. Ain, after a brief absence from the city, has returned, and will spend the remainder of the winter here.

We never value ourselves. Until the rain comes; For if it stops you'll never know how we miss it when it goes! Oom Pasi is surprisingly neglectful of etiquette. He has failed to acknowledge his thanks for the storm of sympathy that was waited his way by the pro-Boer meeting the other night.

It is perhaps all for the best that the oil tanks are to remain on the East Side. Their contents will be invaluable to pour on the troubled waters when one of these terrible storms threatens to wreck the shipping in their vicinity. The German bark Sirena, of Hamburg, which is headed for Portland and Puget sound, is in command of Captain Baeserling. This navigator's name would probably have been two syllables shorter had he not been out in so many thunder storms.

Although the war department has \$600,000 available for the establishment of a powder magazine within four miles of New York, and land in that vicinity sells as low as \$100,000 an acre, a site cannot be secured, as such a combustible institution keeps the adjoining land awake nights, thus incurring heavy expense for opiates.

It has come to the point where soldiers' teeth must be hardened or the hardback softened. General Otis reports that the teeth of nearly every soldier in the Philippines are in a bad state of decay, and that a year on hardback in the tropics has almost completely ruined the teeth of 50 per cent of the soldiers there. It is now proposed to commission one dental surgeon, with the rank of major, to every 1000 men in the army.

A peanut vendor who had been all the morning roasting peanuts and getting his portable stand ready for the day's business, was selling in Third street about noon yesterday, as such a combustible institution keeps the adjoining land awake nights, thus incurring heavy expense for opiates.

A correspondent inquires: "What is ginseng, and how is it employed by the Chinese?" Ginseng is a perennial herb once very plentiful in a portion of the United States, having its habitat in the mountains, Kentucky, Tennessee and North Carolina, from which it spread west to Missouri and parts of the South. It has a root four to nine inches long, which throws up a stem about a foot high, having inconspicuous greenish flowers, succeeded by small, berry-like, red fruits. The root of the plant is of interest, or value, chiefly as an article of export to China, where it has long been supposed to possess remarkable value in the treatment of nearly all diseases. A species of ginseng used to be plentiful in China, Corea and neighboring countries, but the great demand for it caused it to be nearly exterminated, and it became scarce before the introduction of the American root; it brought its weight in gold at Peking, and very fine specimens sometimes brought much more. It is not considered in this country to possess any valuable medicinal properties, but is sometimes chewed as a demulcent. The fact that the Chinese consider it possessed of valuable medicinal properties amounts to nothing, as the Chinese are very fanciful in such matters, as can be seen by the articles they import here as medicine, such as dried ginseng and lizard tails. The root is a hard, woody substance, the growth of which should be sufficient to make a well man sick, and to put a sick man out of his misery.

A Historic Cradle. Philadelphia Record.

All the Hohenzollern princes born since 1772 have been cradled in a cradle of carved oak. On the four sides is carved the text: "He has given his angelic charge over thee, to keep thee in all his ways." The emperor regarded the cradle as a symbol of his power, and all his children have one after the other been cradled in it.

Would Have It Sheltered. Philadelphia Record.

Native—Yes, that's where the big light-house stood; but the big storm last fall swept it down. Lady Visitor—I don't wonder. It was built of them to build it in such an exposed place.

Bicycle Conscience. Detroit Free Press.

First Bike—I saw something today that makes me tired. Second Bike—What's that? First Bike—Hubber.

Environment. Elizabeth Gallup Perkins in Boston Transcript.

A fly grew in a garden far From the dust of the city street; It had no dream that the sleep of death As the seed of a little seed, Than its virgin soil; so chaste was it, So perfect its retreat. When night came down the fly looked close To the tread of the sweeping throng; It saw the gaze of a hundred eyes, Whose light had been in the light of death— The path of shame and sin; And the other forever aged-white And it blossomed aye white!

The Hilltop Hunters. Chicago News.

City Sportsman—Any game around here? Farmer—Yes, the woods are full of it. City Sportsman—I supposed it had been pretty well killed off by now. Farmer—Oh, no. No one ever hunts around here but you city fellows.

Presley. Louisville Courier-Journal.

Why didn't Kaiser Bill worry so much about getting his legislature to increase his navy? A Kaiser, who, by his simple own neckless says that their mothers never fall to say, "Now what do you say for that?"

The Inevitable Reminder. Atchison Globe.

An Atchison man who gives little children nickels says that their mothers never fall to say, "Now what do you say for that?"