BOISE AND WATER WORKS

FEELING MAY LEAD TO CITY OWNERSHIP.

How the Strife Grew Up, and the Points in Contention—Both Sides Determined to Fight.

BOISE, Idaho, Aug. 5.—The one great question of public interest in Boise at present, outside of politics, is the water question. The company that furnishes water in this city is known as the Artesian Hot & Cold Water Company, and from the time of the organization of the company down to the present, there has been constant friction between it and the city. The present city government has refused to pay the company anything for the services it renders in case of fire, and for other strictly municipal purposes, and the company has notified the city that the matter will be taken before the highest courts in the land for settlement. The cause of the controversy lies in the double construction that may be given the following section of the statutes:

All corporations formed to supply water to cities and towns must furnish pure, fresh water to the inhabitants thereof for family uses, so long as the supply permits, at reasonable rates and without distinction of person, upon proper demand therefor, and must furnish water to the extent of their means in case of fire or other great necessity, free of charge.

The custom prior to the present regime was for the water company to receive from the city payment for the water it had furnished the city. This amount varied in the different administrations, but would average about $2500 per year, exclusive of flushing the sewers, which would have been nearly $2000 more. The present city administration paid the water company about $2200 the first year, having another contract for flushing, but at the beginning of the present fiscal year it took the ground that the company was bound by the law to give water for fire purposes free, and, in addition, water for sprinkling the streets and other strictly municipal purposes.

While the city took this position, yet it at the same time attempted to enter into a contract with the company for the present fiscal year, and here is where the trouble commenced. The water company asked the sum of $8600 per year, and agreed for this sum to furnish water for flushing the sewers, sprinkling the streets, water used in city buildings, and an adequate fire pressure. The present system of fire pressure is inadequate. When a fire occurs, it is almost impossible to get up pressure enough to have much effect, and the company agreed to remedy this by filling an unused reservoir, and to keep a man there at all times, so that pressure could be turned on promptly in case of fire. After a great deal of negotiation, the company withdrew its proposition, and asked $4700 for the service mentioned, exclusive of flushing the sewers. The city offered to give $4100, and on this difference of $500 a year the matter rests today.

Point of the Contention.

The position of the city is that the law contemplates that in return for the granting of the franchise to the water corporation the company is to furnish water to the city free of charge, and that the rates charged the ordinary consumer are to be made large enough to allow the company proper remuneration. This position is generally accepted, even by the friends of the company, but the sticking point comes on the clause of the law that reads "and must furnish water to the extent of their means in case of fire or other great necessity free of charge." The city has taken the position that the company is obliged, under this section of the law, to furnish water in case of fire to the extent of all the means in its power, including all reservoirs and pumping engines that it may have, while the company contends that it is only obliged to furnish the means it may have in the ordinary course of business. That is, in case of fire, the city maintains that the company must stop all use of water by private parties, and must start its pumps and use every means it may possess to stop the fire. The company thinks it would only be obliged to give the city what water would be running in the mains at the time, and would be under no obligation to go to any extra expense or trouble to furnish water.

The city also contends that the clause "or other great necessity" includes sprinkling the streets and water for city buildings. The company denies this in toto. But the city has taken the bull by the horns, and is, at present, taking water from the mains of the company and sprinkling the streets with it, and has refused to pay the company for this service, as well as for the water that is used in the various city buildings. The company has tried various ways to get the city to pay for this water, but so far without avail. It has presented bills, only to have them disallowed. It has notified the city to stop using water from the mains, but the city keeps on using it. It has threatened to take the matter into the courts, but the city pays no attention to these threats.

Situation of the Company.

The Artesian Hot & Cold Water Company was organized March 28, 1891, the capital stock being $250,000, of which $150,000 was subscribed. The directors and principal stockholders were among the leading capitalists in the city. This organization was the outgrowth of the rivalry between two companies, which was so fierce that neither one made dividends, and after a fight that lasted a good many years, the new company was organized as a matter of self-protection. The two old water companies were known as the Boise Water Company, and the Boise Water & Land Improvement Company. The first company was the outgrowth of the old reservoir owned by Eastman Bros., and which was a money-making institution in its time; but after being sold out to the Boise Water Company, was a losing venture, on account of the rivalry that sprang up with the other company. The officials of the present company claim that neither the Boise Water Company nor the Boise Water & Land Improvement Company made a cent in their day, and that the present company has paid no dividends except in the past two years. There is about $160,000 invested in the present company, but of this amount over $40,000 was practically thrown away in the purchase of the Boise Water Company's works, for the reason that those mains were so small as to be absolutely useless in case of fire, the new company being obliged to replace them. The new company has also built the Natatorium, which is one of the largest and best arranged in the West. It claims that for the city to refuse to pay for the water it uses, would amount to practical confiscation of the water plant, but the city authorities answer that the legal way of fixing rates so that dividends will result is the only correct way, and that if the company cannot make its works pay without the money from the city, a commission should be appointed under the provisions of law and new rates established.

It is but natural that such a condition of things should breed ill-feeling, and it has done so in this case. There had been a well-defined feeling of hostility to the Artesian Hot & Cold Water Company for years, although the leading members of that corporation are among the wealthiest citizens of the city. The course that these citizens took when the Idaho Midland Railroad proposition was before the city created such a feeling of antagonism toward the company that public sentiment is strongly for a system of municipal ownership of the city water works.

This Midland Railroad proposition created so much feeling against the water company that it may never outgrow it. When the proposed road to Butte, now known as the Idaho Midland, was first broached, it met with universal approval. The leading men of the city, including those who were closely allied with the Artesian Hot & Cold Water Company, wrote a letter to Tom Bates, the promoter of the road, stating that they favored it and that Boise would subscribe liberally to bonds to help build the road. Largely upon this representation, Mr. Bates took hold of the road and finally submitted a proposition to the city to subscribe for bonds of the road. The Chamber of Commerce accepted the proposition, and appointed committees to solicit and close matters up. Meanwhile, the water question had assumed a violent form, through the refusal of the city to pay for the water, and when the committees visited the capitalists connected with the water company, they were met with a blank refusal to subscribe to the bonds. A committee was then appointed, consisting of Judge Stewart, of the Third Judicial District and Judge Quarles, of the Supreme Court, and these gentlemen met with the same result.

When this latter committee made its report there was great indignation. Public sentiment crystallized in opposition to the course that the water company had taken. Two banks, which were closely connected with the water company, very quickly felt the voice of public condemnation, and after a day or two of an unequal struggle, nearly all the men connected with the water company came forward and subscribed gingerly to the bonds.

But the matter had gone too far for peace to be declared, and a short time after Mayor J. H. Richards addressed a communication to the City Council, advocating municipal ownership, and the Council has a committee working on this matter at the present time. Mayor Richards and the leading members of the Council state that there is no question but the Council will adopt an ordinance favoring this step, and that it will be submitted to the people for their action. Just at present, the water company seems to be doing nothing to stave off affairs, and it may be that it has something up its sleeve. The people must vote on the ordinance before it can go into effect.

Mayor Richards says the city has entered the fight to stay. The water company has stated that it will carry the matter to the Supreme Court of the United States, and the Mayor states that the city will fight the matter to that court if necessary. Meanwhile, the Mayor says that the people will have an opportunity to vote on whether they wish municipal ownership or not.

It is also thought that the water company will make an effort to have the next Legislature repeal the objectionable law and pass one favorable to it, but this would be bitterly contested. That the question is not a political one, is shown by the fact that the Mayor is a Republican, while the majority that sustains him in the City Council is composed of three Republicans and three Democrats.

ON THE CAMP GROUNDS.

Sermons by Revs. N. S. Holcroft and M. L. Hardingham.

Two large congregations gathered on the G. A. R. campground at Pleasant Home yesterday morning and afternoon to hear the patriotic sermons of Rev. N. S. Holcroft and Rev. M. L. Hardingham. The reunion of the G. A. R. veterans closed Saturday night, but provisions were made for these two services before the campers should leave the ground.

Mr. Holcroft spoke in the forenoon on the subject, "The Opportunities and Responsibilities of the Hour." His sermon took a wide scope. He first discussed the intellectual responsibilities of the masses, and declared that there never was a time when the demands for a thorough mental equipment were more insistent than at present. He said that man or woman who entered the race of life without a broad education was already fatally handicapped. The speaker with much force sought to impress upon the congregation that only the best-equipped can meet the opportunities and responsibilities of the hour with success. There were ample facilities, and there could be no excuse along this line. Mr. Holcroft then discussed the subject from a National and spiritual standpoint, and spoke with eloquent force. The Nation, he said, demands the best brains and the church demands the highest spirituality of the people. Only by measuring up to a high standard can the Nation attain the highest degree of eminence.

Rev. Mr. Hardingham, who spoke in the afternoon, preached from the subject, "Clouds on the Sky." The sermon was a sort of warning, as the speaker undertook to point out some of the pressing evils of the time. He spoke of intemperance, the vast amount of wealth squandered in it, the ruination of the thousands of young, the cutting down of young men of promise, and said that while much had been done to mitigate the evil it still remained and had to be fought. The speaker seemed to think there was some danger to the public schools, and said that no effort should be spared to uphold and improve them and to resist every effort to impair or break them down. Mr. Hardingham spoke of anarchy as one of the "Clouds on the Sky," and declared its growth and spread required watching. Closing, he spoke of the feeling of unrest that prevails, which promotes discontent and disappointment. He declared that from this feeling of unrest came the great tramp evil and the unsettled conditions of so many.

The sermons of the day were supplemental of each other, and were well received by the congregations.

SPECIE AT SAN FRANCISCO.

Imports and Exports of Gold and Silver for 12 Months.

New York Financial Chronicle.

Through the courtesy of the Collector of Customs at San Francisco we have received the details of imports and exports of gold and silver through that port for the month of June, and they are given below in conjunction with the figures for preceding months, thus completing the results for the fiscal year 1899-1900. The imports of gold were important in amount, reaching $533,179, of which $302,780 was in coin. Of silver there came in $226,183, of which $216,515 was bullion. During the 12 months there has been received a total of $10,456,361 gold and $2,069,334 silver which compares with $51,702,514 gold and $2,072,890 silver in 1898-1899. The shipments of gold during June were only $11,153, all coin, and the exports of silver have been $822,352, of which $250,702 was coin. For the 12 months the exports of gold have reached $2,025,189, against $1,774,787 in 1898-99, and $7,552,120 silver has been sent out, against $4,889,974 in 1898-1899. The exhibit for June and the 12 months is as follows:

Imports.

Months, 1899-1900—	Gold Coin.	Gold Bullion.	Gold Total.	Silver Coin.	Silver Bullion.	Silver Total.
July	$ 558,878	$155,979	$ 714,857	$ 78,023	$ 147,612	$ 225,635
August	1,226,5[illegible]5	48,[illegible]16	1,274,811	9,476	144,359	153,835
September	882,[illegible]90	72,[illegible]24	955,114	5,[illegible]583	201,432	282,[illegible]
October	1,168,[illegible]61	408,[illegible]61	1,57[illegible]	110,580	156,147	266,727
November	[illegible]4,[illegible]81	11,578	116,[illegible]58	112,607	11[illegible]715	123,822
December	265,205	80,276	345,481	49,427	146,[illegible]76	195,903
January	3,312	22,316	75,[illegible]28	55,571	220,233	275,804
February	70,008	8,152	78,160	2,[illegible]62	50,9[illegible]7	52,579
March	6,[illegible]56	41,294	47,650	18,197	237,311	255,508
April	2,[illegible]74,[illegible]0	14,[illegible]4	2,288,584	7,178	220,7[illegible]5	227,913
May	2,477,261	22,614	2,499,[illegible]0[illegible]	13,384	177,920	191,304
June	302,[illegible]80	31,379	533,179	9,668	216,515	226,183
Total 12 months	$[illegible],470,253	[illegible]98,108	$10,456,361	$ 573,262	$2,[illegible]16,072	$2,669,334

Exports.

Months, 1899-1900—	Gold Coin.	Gold Bullion.	Gold Total.	Silver Coin.	Silver Bullion.	Silver Total.
July	$ 361,285	......	$ 361,285	$ 1[illegible]2,2[illegible]4	$ 58,400	$ 600,664
August	457,980	$ 110	458,090	498,5[illegible]6	231,000	729,516
September	424,780	420	435,200	17,[illegible]388	[illegible]15,800	587,188
October	6,[illegible]85	......	6,585	19,515	227,9[illegible]0	247,[illegible]16
November	112,345	850	113,[illegible]95	21[illegible],573	448,500	660,073
December	[illegible]14,[illegible]10	1,500	815,610	671,[illegible]76	263,670	1,03[illegible],445
January	104,450	950	105,4[illegible]0	133,190	284,407	417,597
February	190,043	50	190,[illegible]93	255,556	4[illegible],045	681,[illegible]01
March	1[illegible],[illegible]50	......	14,[illegible]60	377,306	2[illegible]9,[illegible]15	61[illegible],681
April	3,910	......	3,910	195,255	252,593	447,848
May	7,8[illegible]8	1,670	9,418	[illegible]9[illegible],938	578,200	904,138
June	11,153	......	11,153	250,702	57[illegible],[illegible]50	823,[illegible]52
Total 12 months	$2,0[illegible],039	$ 5,150	$2,025,189	$3,223,640	$4,328,480	$7,552,120

SIR ROBERT HART'S WORK

SHUT HIMSELF FROM WORLD TO SERVE THE CHINESE.

How He Won Confidence and Esteem of That Suspicious People Under Great Disadvantages.

John R. Rathom in Chicago Times-Herald.

If you ask the great majority of people on what facts they base their belief in the wholesale slaughter of the members of the Legations at Pekin they will probably tell you that the insincerity of the Chinese leaders and their evidently frantic attempts to gain time by trick messages and edits have been enough to convince them. But if you ask anybody, of any nationality, who has ever been a resident of China why he thinks a terrible tragedy has occurred behind the black veil of doubt he will say: "Why have we not heard from Sir Robert Hart?"

To those who understand something of the internal affairs of that vast and unwieldly kingdom the fact that no word has come out of Pekin for several weeks from this unique figure in the history of the Orient, carries far more significance than any break in the communications between the Ministers and their Governments.

And you will probably find such people emphatic in their declaration that the Legations have all been cruelly murdered—not because of the signs of duplicity in the conduct of the Chinese, the warlike preparations of the Imperial Government or the unmasking of the palpably sham solicitude of the Viceroys. But because Hart is silent.

Imagine if you can a man of the highest attainments, a trained diplomat with an inheritance ample for luxurious and idle living, calmly cutting himself off for life from his kindred and all his interests in his native land to devote himself to the task of helping a nation like the Chinese to become something more than a lumbering antiquity in the eyes of the world. Imagine the depth of character and the sincerity that such a man must have possessed to secure and retain the confidence and deep affection of an alien and distrustful people, through all the intrigue, broken faith and deception practiced on them by his own and other Governments.

General Gordon was greatly admired by the Chinese, but he secured their friendship principally by spectacular deeds and his victories on battlefields. Sir Robert Hart gained their confidence in a far greater degree, and did it despite the fact that he persisted in a policy antagonistic to all their ideas of government and upsetting the very foundations of their whole method of thought and action. So completely did he sever himself from the Occidental world that, notwithstanding his achievements, and they have been marvelous under the circumstances, the story of his life appears in no biographical dictionary or similar work published in the English language.

The British Government in its dealings with China has, of course, always been very much alive to the fact that his advice and assistance were invaluable, and every foreign Ambassador at Pekin for the last 30 years has profited in no small measure by his kindly counsel. It is only one additional tribute to his sterling character to say that every one of those Ambassadors, notwithstanding the constant friction and jealousy between the Legations, has been his warm personal friend. But outside of this little official world his achievements and his life have always been a sealed book.

Robert Hart was born in Armagh, Ireland, in 1835. When he was 19 years old he secured a post in the British Consular service and was at once ordered to China, becoming a member of the official family at Pekin. In 1857 he was transferred to the Consular office at Canton. Young Hart soon proved himself a very able and conscientious worker. He started out not only to master the Chinese dialects and the written language but plunged heart and soul into the even harder task of learning the habits and character of the people.

To show how he succeeded it is only necessary to say that nine years after he reached China, the Emperor sent an urgent appeal to Great Britain, through its Ambassador at Pekin, to allow the young man, who was then in his 28th year, to join the Chinese Imperial service. Permission was given and Hart was at once made Inspector-General of Customs. That was in 1863. From that year up to 1885 he held his post steadily, bringing the service from a condition of chaos into a practical business atmosphere. He not only introduced the novel features of honesty and rectitude in the keeping of Chinese accounts but gathered round him a staff of over 3000 young Chinamen and dispatched them to all parts of the empire on customs duty. Their efficiency and integrity forced the unstinted admiration of the foreign Ministers. Indeed, the German Minister wrote to his Government: "This Hart has worked a greater miracle than my eyes will ever look on again."

When one remembers that the great majority of these young Chinamen have grown up to manhood under Sir Robert Hart's almost parental care and have always had the deepest loyalty and affection for their old chief, it can be realized what people mean when they say that if any living man had been able, under any kind of conditions, to get a message out of Pekin, it would have been this trusted and beloved official.

When Sir Harry Parks, British Ambassador to China, resigned, Sir Robert Hart was offered the post time after time. He persistenly refused, not because he would not have been glad to have it, but because he had determined to finish out his days in the service of the people he had sought all his life to uplift.

After the negotiation of peace with France in 1885, when his splendid services for China were the admiration of the diplomatic world, the Emperor, to prove his gratitude, gave him the decorations of the Red Button and the Double Dragon, the only occasion in the history of China that a foreigner has been so honored. This mark of favor was immediately followed up by a change in his title, and after 1885 he was known as "Director Supreme of Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs," with an official palace at Pekin.

From that time to the present he has labored steadily at his great task, regarded by all progressive Chinese as the savior of the country and the sole hope for the financial solvency and good standing of the empire. It is a strange thing to say, but the maritime customs service of China today, and it is a vast and complicated service, too, is probably the purest and most honestly directed arm of government possessed by any nation in the world—and it exists in a land where official corruption is the most common of all vices.

If Sir Robert Hart is dead he can have no grander epitaph than that. And thousands of Chinamen who have loved and served him for a quarter of a century will be his most sorrowful mourners.

Merged Into Ordinary English.

London Chronicle.

Who discovered, or rather revived, the word "inwardness" as denoting the true meaning of a speaker's words? This is the latest query of Dr. Murray for the purpose of his new English dictionary. The word in a similar connection was employed in the seventeenth century, but it dropped into desuetude, and did not reappear until some 20 years ago. When it was revived, in the '80s, it was printed between inverted commas, but it has now passed the probationary stage and become merged in ordinary English.

In 1896 there were 1030 savings banks in the United States, and the deposits in them amounted to $1,841,000,000. In 1899 there were 942 savings banks in the United States, and their deposits were $2,401,000,000.

BORCHGREVINK'S WINTER IN THE ANTARCTIC

C. E. BORCHGREVINK.

At a recent meeting of the Royal Geographical Society a paper was read by Mr. C. E. Borchgrevink describing the experiences of the Borchgrevink-Newnes Antartic expedition, which spent the Winter of 1899 in the Antartic on Victoria Land. The explorers' ship, the Southern Cross, struck the Antartic ice pack, December 30, 1898, and on February 17, Robertson Bay was entered. Soon after stores, instruments, dogs, etc., were landed at Cape Adare and 10 members of the expedition were left to spend the Winter, the ship returning to New Zealand. The 10 were the first men who ever wintered on Antarctic land. Various expeditions were made to explore the country, geological and other specimens were collected and valuable meteorological observations were recorded. An obstacle to exploration was the great height of the land—12,000 feet, for example, near Robertson Bay. Great cliffs rose from the beach to immense heights, and huge glaciers precipitated themselves into the sea, endangering the lives of the explorers by reason of the waves created by the fall of icebergs. The great height of the land made it possible, in fact, to reach the interior of the continent.

The tremendous gales were found to be a striking feature of the Antarctic climate. At Cape Adare early in 1899 the wind attained a velocity of 87 miles an hour, and in November a velocity of 108 miles was reached. Such winds made meteorological observations—in fact, existence itself—almost impossible. Frequently the observer had to visit his station with a rope about his waist. The coldest day was in August, when the temperature was 52 degrees below the zero of Fahrenheit's scale. Fish and birds' eggs varied the expedition's menu, but there were no bears, foxes or reindeer. The crevasses in the ice, the height of the land and the fierce gales made travel difficult and close the interior to the explorer. Still some new lands were discovered and new geographical features were sketched on the map. At the end of November the ice pack began to open. By January 10 open water was everywhere to be seen, and the weather was warmer, so that in February the Southern Cross came in covered with ice. The farthest point south ever reached by man was attained in April in longitude 195 degrees 50 minutes east, when the latitude was found to be 78 degrees 50 minutes. Since Ross' time the barrier of southern ice has been broken through, it appears, to the extent of about 36 miles. In Mr. Borchgrevink's opinion the position of the southern magnetic pole is in latitude 73 degrees 20 minutes south, longitude 14 degrees east. Penetration into the southern continent is still an unsatisfied longing of geographers, no coast giving easy access having so far been hit upon by explorers.

PERILS OF THE PLAINS

COL. NYE IS SURVIVOR OF FIRST IMMIGRATION COMPANY.

He Is a Prosperous Prineville Citizen—Avoids Telling of His Interesting Pioneer Experiences.

PRINEVILLE, Or., Aug. 3.—Colonel M. C. Nye, of this place, is the most sought-for man in the country for interviews, and least inclined to talk. Since the death of Colonel John Bidwell in California a few months ago, Colonel Nye is the sole survivor of the first expedition that ever crossed the American plains. Letters have poured in to him for information, and reporters have traveled for miles to interview him, but he has never been inclined to talk, and is not inclined to talk now. With his death the last tongue will be silenced that can give any reliable information of that trip of hardships. Colonel Nye does not like to talk about the trip for some reason, and he looks upon the stranger who tries to draw him out on the subject with contempt. Even Colonel Bidwell, in his lifetime, failed to get an extended conversation on the subject with Colonel Nye, and at the reunions of the surviving members Colonel Nye usually changed the subject by asking about some matter of later days.

Prosperous but Eccentric.

Colonel Nye is one of the most prosperous sheepmen of Crook County, and a large property-owner, and although getting very old, he is making no arrangements to follow his old comrades. He is a shrewd business man, well informed, and a fluent talker, but he is eccentric on the point of talking over old times, and will not even give his age. No one in Crook County knows his age, and it is estimated all the way from 90 years to 120. While he is not an extremely old-looking man, yet men aver that he looks no older than he did when they first met him, 30 years ago. Every device and plan has been resorted to to ascertain the Colonel's age, not because of the importance of knowing it, but just because of the Colonel's refusal to give it.

A lawyer a while back thought he had the Colonel cornered. The Colonel was placed on the witness stand, and the lawyer, on cross-examination, asked his age. The Colonel's usual reply, "Something upwards of 50 years," came back promptly, and the lawyer insisted, appealing to the court on Colonel Nye's refusal to be more definite. But as the age had nothing to do with the point in hand the court sustained Colonel Nye, and his age still remains a secret.

Interview With Colonel Nye.

An Oregonian correspondent, in company with Postmaster Summers, called the other night to see Colonel Nye. The Colonel was good-natured, and seemed to forget himself, and talked a little. He did not go into details, but he came near giving his age away, and, it is said, told more than he ever did before.

Colonel Nye saw an advertisement in a newspaper of the making up of a party to cross the plains. He was a young adventurer and responded to the advertisement. Forty-two others responded, among the number being one woman. They left Independence, Mo., in 1841, and were seven months making the trip. Colonel Bidwell compiled an account of the journey from a diary that he made at the time, but he did not tell many things that occurred, and which are interesting incidents of the trip.

Colonel Nye was the youngest member of the party. When it was found that he could not be dissuaded from making the trip, his father and uncle presented him with a strong young mule. The mule was tied behind the wagon and the boy instructed to take good care of the mule—to feed and water him—but not to use the mule until an emergency came. The boy followed the instructions implicitly, and day in and day out he trudged along on foot, never mounting the mule, but always feeding and watering him, that is, staking or hobbling the animal out whenever they stopped. The advice of the father and uncle and the boy's implicit obedience to their wishes proved of great value to himself as well as to the entire company. When the [illegible] to skeletons and all the wagons and supplies had to be abandoned about 60 miles west from Salt Lake, young Nye had a fresh, strong young mule, a great advantage over all the others. When night came and the roll was called, Colonel Nye and the mule were sent back on the trail to bring [illegible]. Often, he says, strong men sat on the side of the trail and begged to be left to die, but he and some companion would take them up forcibly and place them on the mule and bring them into camp.

Long before they reached these straits, however, there was a disruption in the party. Some of the men saw the terrible trip before them and determined to return. Colonel Nye remembers, among these, a blacksmith, who took him to one side and begged him to abandon the venture. After pleading with him for some time and calling him "his boy," the blacksmith told him it would be impossible to cross the plains, and that every one who attempted it would leave his bones on the trail. The boy coolly informed the blacksmith that if anybody continued the trip he would follow, and that he would do so if he knew that he would not live 24 hours. The blacksmith wiped away his tears and gave the boy up for lost.

Thirty-two Continued Westward.

Thirty-two, including the woman, pursued their journey, while the others returned. But their real troubles began after they were compelled to abandon their property this side of Utah. Colonel Nye relates an incident at this point. When they had placed the wagons and property all together to abandon them, a lone Indian approached them. The commander of the party pointed to the property and by signs indicated to the Indian that he could have the property—wagons and all. Colonel Nye says it was the first and last Indian that he ever saw completely overcome with gratitude. He pointed to the sun and to his newly acquired possessions, and, he believes tears actually came into his eyes. Then they left the Indian and the property and started out across the wide expanse of desert, with few provisions and poorly mounted.

There were two Dawsons in the party, but they were not related. One was called Cheyenne Dawson and the other Bear Dawson. On the start they were great braggarts. Cheyenne's blood-thirstiness lay toward the Indians and Bear's ambition was to kill grizzlies. The party ran on to a large band of grizzlies one day and called on Bear Dawson to show his skill, but when the fight was over and the roll was called, "Bear" did not answer. He had run away at the first sight of the monster animals. When chided afterward for his cowardice, he said that he did not expect to find so many in one band.

Cheyenne's turn finally came. He had dropped behind the main party one day and the Cheyenne Indians surrounded him and took him a prisoner. After taking his gun and stripping him of his clothing, they set him free and he appeared in camp that night in that condition.

An Indian Demonstration.

But Cheyenne got even with an Indian of another tribe further on the journey. The horses of the party had all been killed for food or died from starvation, excepting a few, reduced to skin and bones, and the mule owned by Colonel Nye. On preparing to leave camp one morning they were surprised to find themselves surrounded by a band of Indian warriors armed with bows and arrows. The commander of the immigrants cooly and quickly organized his little force to repel the attack, urging his men to hold their fire to the last moment. With their backs to their horses and scanty supplies the immigrants formed a circle and every man covered an Indian with his gun. The Indians were not far distant, and kept advancing slowly. They outnumbered the immigrants so greatly that should the immigrants fire one gun they would have been overwhelmed at once. When within close gunshot the Indians halted. Then the woman of the party was ordered to ride on. She coolly rode toward the Indians forming the circle in front, while the few other horses followed her and the men on the sides and in the rear kept guns leveled upon the Indians. The Indians in front gave way, and those on the sides and rear raised a warwhoop and started as if on the charge. Again the command came to "hold your fire," and the immigrants marched slowly on. This was repeated several times, until finally the Indians disappeared in the rear.

In a short time an Indian mounted on a splendid horse overtook them and made overtures of peace. He showed by signs that he wished to become a member of their party, and traveled with the party until noon. They suspected treachery, but saw no harm in letting the Indian remain with them. Late in the afternoon Cheyenne Dawson kept falling behind, at the same time detaining the Indian by making signs and carrying on a sort of deaf and dumb conversation with him. The Indian was never again seen, but that night Cheyenne showed up in camp mounted on the Indian's horse. He told them the Indian gave him the horse, but years afterwards he confessed that he thought he was justified in killing the Indian under the circumstances.

Privations of the Trail.

Of the story of privations and suffering Colonel Bidwell has already told how coyote meat was relished, as a luxury, and many other incidents of those times, which are verified by Colonel Nye. But there are a few other incidents related by Colonel Nye that have never been published. Colonel Bidwell was the best educated man in the party and of an investigating turn of mind. If he saw a snow peak, a deep canyon or other natural object of interest he dropped behind and made for it. Colonel Nye says that Bidwell gave them more trouble than any other member of the party. Even in the hostile sections of country they were kept busy hunting for Bidwell at the close of nearly every day.

After reaching California Colonel Nye was adopted into the family of a wealthy Spaniard who took a liking to him and he actually became a naturalized citizen of Mexico. He has never foresworn his allegiance to that country, and never will, but he never fails to vote in this country and will, if he lives, vote for McKinley and protection this Fall.

"You crossed the plains in 1841?" was asked Colonel Nye. "That was 59 years ago. You were the youngest member of the party, adopted into a Spanish family. How old were you when you started on the journey, Colonel Nye?"

"Oh! I was upwards of—I was quite a lad," replied the Colonel. Seeing that he was about to give away his age he refused to talk any further.

Where Kipling Lives.

Saturday Evening Post.

Rottingdean is a tiny and primitive place, a mere hamlet, nestling in a small hollow in the downs on the edge of the sea, about four miles away from the enormous and fashionable town of Brighton. The original village lay about an eighth of a mile from the sea, out of the wind and in the sun—the south coast of England is a fairly bright region. It consisted of a few houses and an ancient little stone church, clustered about a small green with a tiny pond in it. One of these houses, a simple and unpretentious one, belongs to Mr. Kipling; another, across the green, to his cousin, Sir Philip Burne-Jones, son of the celebrated painter.

The original village supported itself nominally by agriculture, actually by smuggling, and all the old houses have cellars bigger than the houses themselves. Now the village has crept down to the very edge of the sea by the addition of some rather ugly modern cottages, which have occasional lodgers when Brighton grows too full and overflows into the neighboring hamlets. There is now an omnibus line between the city and Rottingdean, and on Sundays and holidays come a good many "trippers," a great part of whom are attracted, doubtless, by the prospect of seeing "where Kipling lives."

Married couples in Norway are privileged to travel on railways at a fare and a half.

PROSPERITY AT SALEM

BANKER GILBERT SAYS MONEY IS PLENTIFUL.

Suggests a Change in Disposition of State Money—Prospects for a Good Crop of Hops.

A. T. Gilbert, a banker, of Salem, spent yesterday at the Imperial. Money is very plentiful at the state capital, he said, as farmers and stockmen nearly all have deposits to their credit and interest is consequently low. Borrowing on personal application, without security, has fallen into disuse of late, and loans now are mostly made on the basis of property security, and finances have therefore assumed a more stable foundation than formerly.

The state also has a good deal of money to loan, but as there are a good many restrictions to be complied with, on the part of borrowers, property-owners have not been very eager to borrow from the state, preferring to deal with banks or private capitalists, who do not demand that the land shall be three times the value of the loan, without the buildings and improvements. The state has heretofore been a little too free in making loans on farm property, he thought, and as a consequence has farm lands in every county on its hands.

He thinks the idle money to the credit of the school fund, which now must be nearly $500,000, should be made available for the general fund, as a deficiency is beginning to be noticeable in this latter fund, and by the time the Legislature meets again, state warrants to an amount equaling the idle money in the school fund will be drawing 6 per cent interest. In other words, the state should not be paying interest on $500,000 when it has that amount locked up in its vaults.

The wheat crop of Marion County, Mr. Gilbert believes, will be poorer than ever before know, the average not being above 10 bushels to the acre.

"The land has been made to raise wheat for many years," he said, "and as the old lands wear out very few new acres are being put under plow. If the farmers of the Willamette Valley wish to continue raising wheat, they will be compelled to apply fertilizers, as they do in the Atlantic States. Stock business is coming more into favor, however, and livestock will enrich these lands again if the farms are turned into stock ranches or dairies.

"The hopraisers of Marion County are happy, though, and they are now arranging to pick their crops as soon as ripe, although a few weeks ago they talked of letting the hops go by default. Hop-buyers have been around among them, offering to contract for 9 and 10 cents, and, as the hops can be put into the bale for 6 cents, the prospects are good for a small margin of profit to the grower. The hop crop of Marion County is likely to be heavy this year, and the quality will be first-class."

Mississippi expects its new capital, so long desired, to be ready for occupancy when the state Legislature meets in January, 1902. One million dollars has been appropriated for its erection.

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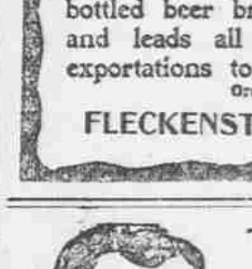

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WHEN HAMLET EXCLAIMED "AYE, THERE'S THE RUB!" COULD HE HAVE REFERRED TO

SAPOLIO