

The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, SEPT. 5, 1913.

A NATIONAL FOREIGN POLICY.

The foundering and wobbling of Secretary Bryan and his revival of the spoils system in making appointments to the diplomatic service have served more than ever to impress on patriotic citizens of all parties the necessity of continuity in our foreign policy.

BACK TO MATTEAWAN.

Thaw is not a "rounder" passing through Canada and therefore free from molestation by the immigration authorities, as he claims; but he is a homicidal maniac, possessed of an abnormal cunning, who has escaped from custody in New York by bribery and other common devices of criminal conspiracy.

FAC-SIMILES.

The McMinnville Telephone-Register is pursuing an investigation into the subject of historic news items following recent discovery that an editor of the Yacholtz County had in his possession a treasure in a copy of the Uster County Gazette printed January 4, 1890, and containing an account of the death of George Washington, which occurred on December 14, 1799.

ON JOINING THE PROGRESSIVE PARTY.

If The Oregonian could be as sure of some things as Miss Carpenter appears to be of all things she has to say in her editorial, it would be well to calmly ahead over seas of controversy without the slightest concern about anyone else's opinions or knowledge, or attitude.

THE TROLLEY AS A DEVELOPER.

The driving of the golden spike on the Portland, Eugene & Eastern railway road at Monroe signifies more than the completion of a line forty-one miles long. It marks the completion of another link in a system which will extend throughout the Willamette Valley and which will bring each community in that rich, broad area into touch with the others.

PROTECTING THE BIRDS.

The stand which Senators Lane and Chamberlain have taken on the question of importing wild bird plumage will probably save the day for the birds and the farmers. The latter are as much interested in the matter as the former, since, as Senator McLean said in his speech on the subject, "the birds are the farmers' need."

THE ANSWER WAS SIMPLE.

Our birds of beautiful plumage and economic value are all migratory. The humming birds, for example, pass the winter in Cuba, where they are slaughtered relentlessly. Their skins are sold in London at 2 cents apiece.

had been framed for the benefit of the landholding aristocracy. Bright, Cobden and their party opposed the corn laws, which involved a protective tariff, on the ground that they burdened the whole country for the sake of a particular privileged class.

His second great campaign was against the wicked and foolish Crimean War. For opposing it he was denounced in the usual language of the kind.

He stood his ground and when the fury was all over England acknowledged that he was right. He opposed the war feeling of his countrymen again in the American Civil War.

He began to influence the British and Union workers were friendly to the Union, and it may well have been their voices that prevented England from recognizing the South.

Bright's last task was the extension of the suffrage to the working class. He began this work and saw it practically completed, but old age overtook him before the final triumph took place.

He was great both in intellect and character, and played a foremost part in one of the world's dramatic ages.

He was a "rounder" passing through Canada and therefore free from molestation by the immigration authorities, as he claims; but he is a homicidal maniac, possessed of an abnormal cunning, who has escaped from custody in New York by bribery and other common devices of criminal conspiracy.

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under the flag so gallantly borne by Miss Carpenter. Yet we ourselves speculate somewhat on what is to come of the party when Colonel Roosevelt decides to come back into the Republican party, or moves on to some other party—if he does.

The driving of the golden spike on the Portland, Eugene & Eastern railway road at Monroe signifies more than the completion of a line forty-one miles long.

It marks the completion of another link in a system which will extend throughout the Willamette Valley and which will bring each community in that rich, broad area into touch with the others.

The rapid transit and frequent trains which this system will afford will tempt men to go into every part of this valley and develop it to its greatest capacity.

Orchards, dairies and every crop which, by intensive cultivation, can be raised on small acreage will fill the valley.

Large farms occupied by single families will be subdivided into small ones, each providing a good living for a family.

Creameries, cheese factories, canneries and many other industries will grow up on the foundation thus laid, and the cities and towns will be quickened into new life.

With denser population will come many of the comforts and conveniences which are denied to the now widely separated farmers.

Good schools, churches, high schools and many forms of amusement will follow the trolley.

Country life will be rendered more attractive and will be robbed of the terrors of isolation which have driven the people to town.

The trolley line is the best developer and upholder of the country.

The stand which Senators Lane and Chamberlain have taken on the question of importing wild bird plumage will probably save the day for the birds and the farmers.

The latter are as much interested in the matter as the former, since, as Senator McLean said in his speech on the subject, "the birds are the farmers' need."

The birds are the farmers' need, and the farmers need them more than anybody else.

As the tariff bill left the House it contained a provision to prohibit the importation of the feathers, wings and skins of wild birds.

No distinction was made among the species because long and sad experience had taught the birds' friends that any such distinction was sure to be interpreted so as to countenance fraud.

The House provision was secured after years of hard work by the Audubon societies and other people who are interested in the preservation of birds and the welfare of agriculture.

Subjects which are too intimately connected to be considered separately. Expert naturalists, travelers who had visited the ends of the earth, scientific investigators of world-wide renown, all laid their weight in favor of the House amendment.

The result of their disinterested labors was the prohibition which we have specified.

The tariff bill then went to the Senate, and with it went the prohibition against importing bird plumage.

In due course it was turned over to the finance committee for consideration.

The public does not know precisely what influences were brought to bear upon that sapient body.

Senator McLean says in his speech that many scientific men testified as they had in the House.

He adds that the millinery trade was most completely represented.

Strange things happen in the mysterious recesses of committee rooms and when the provision to protect the birds emerged it had been marvelously altered.

It now forbade the importation of the plumage and skins of all except "game" birds.

The change in language may have appeared to some members of the finance committee, it totally altered the significance of the clause.

There is scarcely a bird of bright plumage which is not somewhere or other shot for game.

Robins and thrushes are named birds in Italy.

The most beneficial birds in the world are hunted as "noxious and pestiferous" by ignorant peasants and savages.

Knowledge upon this subject is scarcely more than rudimentary among the common people everywhere.

It is an interesting question, and one which the Senate committee's alteration gave the millinery trade to continue its onslaught upon the bird life of the world.

Many Senators understood the merits of the question.

Mr. O'Gorman, of New York, for example, and Mr. Williams, of Mississippi, were among those who protested against the change.

But there was serious danger that the committee's report would be adopted as it stood by the Democratic caucus and thus become a party matter.

It is to be hoped for the birds and the farmers, because the reverence of the Democratic Senators for their party caucus amounts to blind superstition.

Senator McLean, of Connecticut, made his speech for the birds on August 16.

His remarks covered the whole ground.

He spoke briefly of the crime and cruelty of the men who collect feathers in all parts of the world, and pointed out, as others have done time and again, the economic disaster which is certain to follow upon the extinction of our feathered friends.

He argued for the formation of the Audubon societies in this country and Europe.

Their influence has spread in the face of selfish opposition and indifference until they have finally enlisted the co-operation of many periodicals and legislators.

Human nature seems to have been everywhere as the facts are understood.

In 1828 Lord Wolsley forbade the use of bird plumage in the British army.

In 1892 the government of India prohibited the exportation of feathers.

Many years ago Germany forbade by imperial edict the exportation of bird skins.

The answer was simple. Our birds of beautiful plumage and economic value are all migratory. The humming birds, for example, pass the winter in Cuba, where they are slaughtered relentlessly.

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WILL OUR SOULS BE CLASSIFIED?

Death Discussed by Writer in Prose and Verse.

PORTLAND, Sept. 3.—(To the Editor.)—I read very carefully the editorial in The Oregonian of last Sunday regarding this most solemn subject, "Death"—a subject, or rather fact of nature which has always been most difficult for the average mind to grasp.

Perhaps my mind is only an average one, but I will admit some of the thoughts which have been in my mind since I read your article.

Now suppose all thinking mortals who look nature in the face and study her moods could grasp the meaning and eternal truth which seem so plain to some of us.

Those truths are: All living creatures came into being according to the laws of nature; the most imperative law seems to be that of change, that is from life to death.

"Life is uncertain, but death is sure." So much for these facts, but to that other part of man that he calls "soul." It is seen that the entire universe is subject to the same eternal law.

There is more to the mortal who has the gift of reason ever bring himself to think that the soul exists apart from nature.

All things being a part of nature, each atom finding its lawful place and nothing being lost, is it unreasonable to believe that the soul will be treated according to laws, as nature treats everything else in her vast domain?

Is it not just possible that souls after the death of the bodies they inhabit will find their proper places in the great unknown, and nature, the mother of all, handle their various destinies according to law?

Is it not possible that the souls of the great Napoleon or the great Duke of Wellington, or our own General Grant be regarded no higher than an Army cook's soul of Washington being entertained by that of the immortal Mr. Samuel Weiler?

I don't want to seem funny, but I would like to see the last of the great preachers spring jokes even in their pulpits, so I might just as well have mine.

Anyway, I hope I am understood, and I hope I have not given the world who would regard lightly what is taken so seriously by the great majority of mankind.

I cannot finish this in prose, but I will venture to say that I am a trembling mortal, though death fear is near.

And on that this the natural change in the world's breath, the gentle earth, the sun, the moon and the stars.

Her day is done and onward keeps Her way, and death is after all But rest for thee and dreamless sleep.

Will you please send me a copy of the editorial, I am unable to accept the invitation of the committee of the Diastical Society to attend the meeting of the investigation of "spiritualism" and for two reasons.

In the first place, I have no time to attend, and in the second place, I have no interest in the subject.

There is talk in Constantinople that Bulgaria has relinquished Adrianople to Turkey in exchange for concessions elsewhere.

She could hardly do otherwise, for she is not in condition, aided, to drive out the Turks a second time.

The Turks will not give up their sacred city unless compelled to, and Bulgaria can look nowhere for help.

The great powers may send a commission to the Sultan, but he will only laugh at them.

The Turk gains one more lease of life through division of the Christians.

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