

Corvallis Gazette.

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In the Maryland legislature a bill has been introduced making the casting of ballots compulsory under penalty of a fine, to go to the public school fund. Sick and absent from the voter's legal residence are the only excuses recognized. This is in the line of practical measures for the preservation of municipal governments from domination by the corrupt and unintelligent elements among voters. It is a recognized fact that whenever those interested in an honest administration of city affairs have gone to the polls in a body they have triumphed over the boodlers, and from this the conclusion is drawn that the misgovernment of our cities is the direct result of the failure of a large number of the more honorable and intelligent class of citizens to cast their ballots. A man has no right to shirk his duty as a citizen. It is one of his duties to pay taxes on his property, and the law compels him to do it; it is one of his duties to serve on the jury, and the law takes him from his store or office, regardless of his wishes, and puts him in the jury box; it is one of his duties to rear his children and educate them to become good and intelligent citizens, and in some states the law compels him to attend to it; it is also one of his duties to help administer the government, of which he is a part, by designating with his ballot whom he prefers to administer or make the laws and what character of laws he desires to have made, and the law has an equal right to compel him to discharge the obligation. As government comes from the people, good government can only come from good people. The creature cannot be better than the creator. If the corrupt elements are permitted to dominate at the polls, a corrupt government can be the only result. If a man neglects to perform his duty as a citizen in this respect, even to his own injury, his neighbor, who is also injured by this neglect, has the moral right to insist that he shall perform it, and this moral right might be made a legal one with much benefit to the cause of good government.

In these days when most people, from the president down, are earnestly in favor of protecting the seals in Behring sea, it is curious to note that Senator Allen of Washington has recently laid before the senate a petition from the chamber of commerce at Port Townsend praying for the passage of a bill to protect the fish along the Washington coast, and arguing that seals should be destroyed because they consume more food fish every year than are used in the canneries, and because the seal-fur trade is maintained solely to suit the tastes of the rich, and, moreover, is controlled by a monopoly.

The substitution of steel masts for wooden ones has not proven a great success. The three steel masts of the United States cruiser Philadelphia weigh 56,000 pounds and cost \$32,000. They are to be replaced by wooden ones, of Oregon pine, that will weigh about 5,000 pounds and cost about \$500. The decision of the navy department to return to the use of wooden masts is pretty good evidence that they are superior to steel, and means considerable money to owners of timber specially adapted to the purpose.—Mobile (Alabama) Commercial.

NEBRASKA celebrated its quarter centennial as a state this week, having been admitted on March 1, 1867. It was even no longer ago than this way out West, and was but thinly settled, but now it is a great state with over 1,000,000 population. Oregon, as a state, is eight years older than Nebraska, and its remoteness from the crowded Atlantic has prevented its rapid settlement and development. But the next few years will witness a great growth in Oregon.—Telegram.

When the talk of a railroad across Behring straits to Siberia first began, most people thought it a visionary scheme that would never be carried out, but it is not improbable that many men now alive will actually see its accomplishment. All the way by rail from one side of the Atlantic to the other would be a ride that would make continent-crossing from the Atlantic to the Pacific a short trip by comparison.

Men who are always scheming occasionally succeed, but they pay a big price in hard work.

OUR GUN FACTORY.

Senator Dolph, of Oregon, has introduced a bill appropriating \$1,000,000 for the erection of suitable buildings and the purchase of suitable machinery and other materials necessary for the establishment and maintenance at some point on or near the Pacific coast of a plant for finishing and assembling parts of heavy guns and other ordnance for the use of army and navy. The senate committee on the coast defenses has passed on the bill and will report it favorably to the senate.

This means that the gun factory, should the bill pass, will be located either in Oregon or Washington, if the senators from those two states can accomplish it. They are not working for California to any great extent where their own states are concerned, and they are not at all to blame. The duty of a senator is to his own constituents, in preference to the people of another state.

All the same, the gun factory should go to Benicia, and not to some point on the Columbia river or on Puget sound. California is entitled to it by every consideration, and we hope that Senators Felton and Stanford will not let Dolph and his associates steal a march on them.—S. F. Post.

The determination of the people's party to put a presidential ticket in the field during the coming campaign has awakened considerable interest in the probable candidates. Congressman Simpson, of Kansas, recently stated that, in his opinion, James B. Weaver, of Iowa, would lead the ticket. L. L. Polk, of North Carolina, T. V. Powderly, Grand Master Workman of the Knights of Labor; Anson J. Streeter, of Illinois, Charles Van Wyck, of New York, and Ignatius Donnelly, of Minnesota, have also been mentioned. Powderly, Weaver and Donnelly are the only candidates who have a national reputation, but as these have made many antagonists in their careers, it is likely some less conspicuous man will be nominated.

REPRESENTATIVE HERMANN, of Oregon, believes it is possible the United States may secure the partial revocation of the edict against the exportation of Angora goats and has introduced a bill directing the minister to Turkey to undertake negotiations for the purchase of 100 or 200 pure-blood Angora goats. Oregon, California, Arizona and other parts of the United States, it is said, are well adapted to raising these animals, and it is hoped to domesticate them in California.

NO MAN has worked harder or accomplished more for the interests of Benton county in congress than our present representative, Hon. Binger Hermann. Should he receive the nomination at the convention to represent Western Oregon for another term, Benton county would stand in line with a large majority of the votes in his favor at the coming election.

Now will begin a democratic war because the republicans in congress will not interpose to save the democratic party from making a fool of itself on the silver question. It is a good thing for the republicans to let the democratic party take its own course. It can always be relied on to make a fool of itself at a suitable time.—Oregonian.

WHEN politics get warm and a campaign is in progress, the howl goes up of the "ring," "gang," "boodlers," etc., says the Port Angeles Tribune. But it is always the fellows in the minority who make these howls. It is the ones in majority who constitute the "ring," "gang," and "boodlers." Funny, isn't it that the majority always is with the ring?

THE school meeting last Monday demonstrates the fact that the taxpayers of Corvallis are in favor of a liberal support for our public schools. The seven-mill school tax was carried by a large majority.

AN exchange says, "Perhaps David Burglar Hill may steal and boss in New York state, but he will find that the nation is a good deal bigger than New York."

Those who try neither to forget nor forgive are engaged in storing up a vast amount of unpleasantness to worry their old age.

ELECTION cigars and political platforms are constructed more for the eye than any other sense, says an exchange.

A bill has been introduced in the senate by Sawyer, authorizing the establishment of a postal telegraph service.

The democrats of the house of congress have declared themselves squarely for Bland's free coinage bill.

RAMBLING THOUGHTS

ON THE LAWS OF PHYSICAL, MORAL, INTELLECTUAL AND SPIRITUAL LIFE.

(Paper read at the late Farmers' Institute by Mrs. A. R. Shipley.)

The great Master of the Universe has ordained that all things shall be governed by laws which are all wise and inexorable. If the laws by which the heavenly bodies are kept in shape and made to move in their respective orbits should be nullified, even but for a moment, destruction would follow reaching from Aleyone or wherever the center of our astral universe is, to the remotest sun, planet or moon in that system. If the laws relating to light, heat and electricity, and other invisible forces, were to become inoperative life would cease. If the laws controlling the circulation of water which cause it to flow to the ocean in streams, which draw it up into clouds to be precipitated again to the earth in mists and rain, were to lose their force earth would be uninhabitable. The laws relating to animal and vegetable life are unchangeable. By continued favorable conditions plants and animals may be improved, but a bird is still a bird, a fish remains a fish, a worm continues a worm, a fly never changes into a bee or bug, and man is always a man. It is not to be supposed that God, who made laws to govern the minutest of His creatures, made man, the crowning glory of all, capable of reasoning and of acquiring knowledge and heir to eternal life, without making laws for his guidance. He has said, "As ye sow so ye must reap," and man was made a free agent, with power to choose what and how he shall sow. This law governs man's physical as well as his intellectual, moral and spiritual natures. Physical law requires that to have good health a person must have pure air to breathe, pure and wholesome food to eat and pure liquids to drink. With our close houses, unwholesome dress and manner of living, too highly concentrated food, tea, coffee and the various kinds of alcoholic drinks, which are narcotic in their ultimate results, it requires much study and self-control to obey the physical laws even fairly well.

An excess of food is one of the most prolific sources of disease. It fills the body with morbid matter in which those organisms which are present in malarial diseases, rheumatism, headache, dyspepsia, liver complaint, kidney trouble, etc., can find lodgment and multiply. Want of proper exercise causes a person to rust out and too much to wear out. Trouble and worry are weakening in their effects. If we find we are getting sick, it is best to stop at once and try to find out what the trouble is, what law we have transgressed, and then go resolutely to work to get back into proper conditions. First, stop eating and cleanse body, both inside and out, with warm water; it is a great cleansing agent. Keep the feet warm and the head cool. Cool or cold applications of water, steadily persisted in, will seldom fail to allay a fever, and there is no danger of taking cold while the fever is on, but the treatment should cease as soon as the fever subsides. Then rest, quiet, and good, but not too officious, nursing will usually be all that is needed. We should not make the often fatal mistake of using so-called stimulants, as their use is always followed by consequent depression and only weakens the patient. Bleeding has gone out of practice years ago, and calomel, that terrible poison, is seldom used now; it is too dangerous. Alcohol, in all its forms as medicine, goes next. A convention of physicians of national reputation, last summer, after prolonged discussion and comparing of notes, pronounced almost unanimously against the use of alcohol in any form as a medicine. I wish every one could read their long and interesting report. The officer who, in Washington after the war, compiled the medical statistics of the army of the Potomac found, to his astonishment, that in those regiments where alcohol was not used the death rate was much lighter than where it was allowed. The benefit supposed to be derived from it is not real, and if it was, the danger of alcohol habit is so great that thoughtful people fear to tamper with it. Shall we take morphine and deaden the sensibilities so that we cannot feel pain and let the cause remain? Will we risk it and perhaps contract the deadly morphine habit? God forbid. Poison may kill the microbes that are thickening the blood or feasting on the vitals and if we also are not killed or so weakened that we die of exhaustion all may seem well, but if, instead of running that risk, we cleanse our bodies of morbid matter these organisms will have nothing to feed upon and they will disappear and we be left well and strong. There are many simple remedies such as teas made from the aromatic herbs, borax, sul-

phur, etc., which are obnoxious to microbes and are comparatively harmless to men, and it has been said that a cloth saturated with turpentine and spread over the mouth and nose, so that the person must breathe through it is a sure cure for pneumonia. Strong medicine which reduces the patient uses up some of the reserved life force and it can never be restored.

Intellectual law ordains that we must give our minds proper mental food or they will be dwarfed and feeble, and improper food will make them crippled and diseased. Mind, to be vigorous, must be exercised in various directions. Dwelling too much on one subject of, on makes a person cranky or insane. One may be too careless to think, too indolent to read, or too weak to reason, but he cannot plead ignorance of the law or evade the penalty if he breaks it, or prevent his children from inheriting his mental weakness. Mental faculties will become stronger by use and weaker by disuse. Memory is improved by exercise or lost by want of it. It will not pay to go through the world asleep and let others do our thinking for us.

Violation of moral laws are far-reaching in results. Selfishness, which leads one to disregard the rights of others, may in his children be developed into dishonesty or theft. One who deceives will not be trusted. If those who indulge in low, vile thoughts, words, acts and company could see themselves as others see them, if they knew that their characters are so plainly written on their faces that observing people can easily read them, they would hide their heads in shame, if they possess such an attribute. We should stand up for what we know to be right, and never give up a principle to any one. This law is so closely allied to those which govern the spiritual nature that to keep it one must love his neighbor as himself, which he can scarcely do without loving God with all his heart, and one who does this has peace, rest and joy, which nothing else can give.

The persons who are filled with that Celestial magnetism which flows from God to those who are striving to live in harmony with Him, who possess faith, that substantial force, which reaches to the eternal throne, need have no fear, for "All things work together for good to those who love God." If it should be true that all the thoughts and purposes of our minds are indelibly stamped there so that in the spirit world all who will may read both what we are and what we ever have been, what will our record be? The past is gone, but the future is before us. How can we better learn to know and keep the laws God has made for our guidance? He has said that He is able and willing to help those who come to Him in sincerity with faith and trust, and the testimony of millions who have lived, and many who are still living, goes to prove that they found peace and happiness in such help. Why should we walk in darkness when He is willing to give us light? Why grope in ignorance when wisdom is within our grasp? Why be weighed down with trouble when we can cast our burdens on the Lord? Why live in unrest when he has said, "Come unto me all ye that are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest." Let us study that wonderful book, which brings only confusion to those who read for purposes of criticism, but peace, rest and joy to all who study it with the earnest purpose of finding the truth therein contained. Let us give more time to such study and less to the acquiring of things which perish with the using, and strive to lay up treasures in Heaven, that we may feel assured that there are prepared for us mansions eternal in the heavens.

NOTES FOR WOMEN.

It is proposed by members of the W. C. T. U. to fully represent the "products" of the saloon at the Worlds fair, that is, alms-houses, insane asylums, idiot asylums, and last but not least the potters field.

The bill to legalize the sale of liquors in Alaska is being pushed through the senate. It is thought, by good authority, that if this bill is passed that it will be the ruin of the natives.

There is a bill before congress to amend the act passed last year prohibiting the granting of liquor licenses within one mile of the Soldier's Home. There has been a marked improvement in the lives of the soldiers since the passage of this bill and there is much concern regarding the amendment.

Mrs. E. A. Russell, of Minneapolis, Minn., has made a great success of the coffee house of the W. C. T. U. Over \$100,000 have been received within the last three years and 2,300 persons are often fed in one day.

The fourteen and a half dollars, collected by the ladies of the good Samaritan church for Mrs. Hanson

of the Alsea, have been turned over to a responsible person, to go toward the purchase of whatever livestock would be the most useful to the distressed family.

Mrs. Hanson, with her little boy and babe returned to her home Friday, very grateful to the people of Corvallis who so kindly helped her.

Upwards of sixty names, nearly all of which were voters, were signed on the petition to congress that Senator Delph's bill to legalize the saloon in Alaska be not suffered to become a law. But for haste in the matter many more might have been gathered in for "common humanity's sake."

The W. C. T. U. of Salem are anxious that the women should take up their responsibilities and vote, whenever legally entitled to do so at the annual school meeting. They feel that the kindergarten is the only right training for very young children, and see no reason why there should not be what the law entitles them to demand. The state W. C. T. U. aided Mrs. Dunlap and her friends in obtaining this law several years ago, and the Portland school board have fought it ever since. Let the smaller cities lead Portland in the right way. Private kindergartens are excellent things, but why should people pay for things when they are already taxed in order to provide them.

At the union bible reading on Thursday afternoon the passage read, led up to the subject of baptism. The way baptism is regarded by the different churches represented there worked up much interest.

The goodly attendance at the drawing-room meeting at Mrs. B. W. Wilson's on Saturday last showed great interest in the topic on hand. Judge Holgate was there armed with the clerk's papers, and they bristling with figures, showed how imperative was a seven-mill tax, if the efficiency of the school is to be preserved throughout the nine months school year. More than half of this is to pay interest on money borrowed, and to decrease the capital of indebtedness. Our beautiful school house was not built by fairies in the night, and has to be paid for. The trouble is that some people (men only, be it known) are smart enough and mean enough to evade their school tax. The several instances of widows in their little home, which home is often their means of living, pay it like the brave women that they are without a even murmur. It seems a pity that the school tax could not be legally spread over a greater number of people. There are people content to rent their houses year by year and who need not for that reason be exempted. There are many who come into town for a portion of the year for the sake of the education of their children. Why should they have this benefit entirely at the expense of their neighbors? Why should not a tax be levied on them, on their children instead of their property.

The District of Columbia is supposed to consist chiefly of boarding houses and hotels, and the people are believed to get their sustenance from congressmen and lobbyists, but according to the census report there are in the District 2300 manufacturing establishments having an invested capital of \$28,876,253, employing 23,477 hands, paying out annually \$14,638,790, and producing \$39,296,259 worth of goods out of \$17,187,752 worth of raw material. This is a much better industrial showing than it was supposed the District would make, and proves the rapid growth of Washington is not due wholly to the fact that congress meets there.

A WARNING—DON'T USE BIG WORDS.

In promulgating esoteric cogitations or articulating superficial sentimentalities and philosophical or psychological observations, beware of platitudinous ponderosity. Let your statements possess a clarified conciseness, compacted comprehensiveness, coherent consistency and a concentrated cogency. Eschew all conglomerations of flaccid garrulity, jejune babblement and asinine affectations. In trying to impress upon others the superiority of the Wisconsin Central Lines, and why you and so many others use this thoroughfare from St. Paul and Minneapolis and Duluth and Ashland to Milwaukee, Chicago and points east and south, it is not necessary to use jawbreakers. Let your extemporaneous discourses and unpremeditated expatiations have intelligibility and veracious vivacity, without rhodomontade or thesaurical bombast. Sedulously avoid all polysyllabic profundity, pataccious vacuity, ventriloquial verbosity and vapidiloquent vagrancy, shun double entendres, prurient jocosity and pettefrouse profanity, obscenity or apparent. In other words, talk plainly, naturally, sensibly, and truthfully say the Wisconsin Central Lines is the route, and that ends it.

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