Corvallis Gazette.

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SHUT THE GATES.

United States Senator Chandler, of the senate committee on immigration, proposes that congress shall pass a law at the first opportunity suspending immigration, except from Pan-American countries, for one year from the 1st of next March.

This is an excellent proposition, which will stop all immigration until the cholera has died out in Europe and we can fix on the permanent immigration policy we wish to adopt. The senate immigration committee proposition excluding all immigrants except visitors, for one year, would be practically an effective national quarantine against the cholera, without which our world's fair would probably be shunned by the world.

The American workingman we do not believe will enjoy free trade in the products of cheap labor, and we are certain he will not enjoy free immigration of cheap foreign labor, like the Huns, Poles and Italians, with which we are at present inundated. The adoption of Senator Chandler's plan would exclude at least a million of that class and to this extent prevent the competition in the labor market from increasing.

The steamship companies and railroads will fight this exclusion measure, and some democratic free trade papers are already beginning to oppose it. The scheme to cheapen American labor by the introduction of cheap free goods will not be complete unless associated with free immigration of the foreign cheap labor that makes the foreign cheap goods.—P. I.

THE number of criminals and lunatics incarcerated in the public correctory institutions of Europe and the United States, and their rapidly increasing numbers, prove incontestibly that there is a grave defect in what we, for a more fitting term, label "civilization." Our crop of murders in the year of grace 1891 was 5906, and the proportion of insane to the population keep pace with the increase of murderers. In 1850 there was one lunatic to 1468, but in 1880 the ratio was one to 656, an increase of more than 100 per cent. in 30 years. The proportion of lunatics is still rapidly growing both in America and Europe. Modern education and its non-committant effects on individuals appear to be the fundamental cause of the mental and moral degeneracy of which criminality and insanity are the symptoms. It has been noticed that in Italy where the population are most ignorant, the education of to-day, generally speaking, does not foster the religious sentiment, and where this prop and stay has been taken away from a mind not robust enough to stand on its own pins, the subject either dives into dissipation or crime, or both, or becomes an idiot. There are, of course, other causes for both criminality and idiocy, as the eagerness for wealth, the oppression of the poor by the pampered rich, the inequalities of life's burdens, the laxness and injustice of law, trashy, and immoral literature, vice, and bad whisky.—Eugene Register.

AMONG the public measures introduced at the opening of congress by Representative Hermann and of interest to the Pacific coast, is one extending time for payment to settlers on forfeited land grants, and who are in actual possession and have improved the lands held by them under written contract or license from the corporation, or were entitled to make purchase under the act of forfeture. The last congress extended the time as to actual residents, but the department decided that this did not include those in possession, but not actually residing on the lands, and Mr. Hermann has filed numerous letters and petitions from settlers unable to make payment and who ask for extension of time as to their class.

THE Monmouth Tribune says: "A. J. Shipley returned Saturday from Monroe, and reports that the roads between Corvallis and Monroe are almost impassable on account of the mud." Never mind, the citizens of Benton county are taking an active interest in roads, and there will be great changes in some of the roads of this section in a short time.

AN exchange says the result of a recent democratic conference is understood to be that the federal patronage of Oregon this time will be disturbed by the fusion democrats. The straights who refused to fuse are out of it.

ABSURD CALANITY-HOWLING.

The following article is printed by request, and we think it worthy of earnest consideration.

"The country is going to destruction on account of the enormous pension payments," say the soldier-haters.

These bilious owners of soured hearts and jaundiced livers have always had the country speeding down the greased slide to certain ruin, on some account or another.

Will expending $135,000,000 a year on pensions hurt a country of 65,000,000 of people and over $65,000,000,000 of wealth?

Which every day in the year spends $1,500,000 on horse-racing? Whose citizens pay from $25,000 to $100,000 for a single horse?

Which pays out hundreds of millions every year for theaters, circuses and baseball.

Which squanders over two billion dollars a year for wines, brandies, whiskey and gin?

Whose people drink every year 85,000,000 gallons of domestic spirits, and 2,000,000 gallons of costly imported brandy, gin, etc.; 854,000,000 gallons of domestic beer and ale, 3,000,000 gallons of foreign brews, 23,000,000 gallons of native wines, and 5,000,000 gallons of the expensive products of the German, French, Spanish and Italian vineyards?

The number of drunkards who died last year in the United States was 120,000. The drunkards who are living to-day in this country number 2,500,000. The drink bill of the nation last year was about $1,200,000,000, and three out of every four arrests are made for crimes directly due to drink. How many more homes should be overshadowed by the curse?

Whose people smoke 4,250,000,000 cigars, 2,500,000,000 cigaretts, and smoke and chew 92,000,000 pounds of tobacco?

Is a country which every year spends thousands of millions for these luxuries and non-necessities to be hurt by spending a hundred millions or so in payment for the country's debts to her saviors, every dollar of which remains at home in circulation among our own people?

The annual report of the United States treasurer submitted shows a good cash balance of nearly eight hundred millions of dollars, a reduction of interest-bearing loans, and a large increase of the total amount of money in circulation.

How absurd to pretend so.

THE Times thinks the city council acted too hastily in purchasing the water works, and they should have waited a month or more to give the people a chance to discuss the matter. Some of our citizens, perhaps, would like to discuss the matter indefinitely. The question has been presented to the public and argued from every standpoint, through the local press for the past two years. And at the special election last fall was carried by a good majority in favor of bonding the city for the purchase of water works. And we can see no special reason why the council should delay action longer, one way or the other, in the matter. Now that the city has made the purchase, it is hoped that before another year we may see water service greatly improved under the city's management.

THE plum of political spoils has brought out considerable competition among the democrats of this city during the present week. The bones of contention are the Corvallis postoffice and the land office at Oregon City. No less than five petitions are in circulation for the signatures of our business men asking for the appointment to these positions under the new administration. The aspirants for the land office are, A. F. Hershner and James A Cauthorn; for the postoffice, Mrs. F. A. Helm, Pete Callahan and Mr. Taylor; all bedrock democrats.

NONE of the papers have a kind word for Jay Gould. With all his wealth not a cent did he give to help the world. No Gould universities are heard of; no Gould homes for the aged; not even a Gould home for aged hens. He is only remembered as a grasping, selfish, gold hunting Gould. Verily, the money-making men of the world have an enormous responsibility on their shoulders.

CORVALLIS will be proud of her new hotel. The proprietor deserves credit for carrying the project through as he has with the limited means at his command. Mr. Wilkins expects to celebrate the opening of the Hotel Corvallis with a grand Christmas dinner, which will no doubt be well patronized by our citizens.

IT is reported, says an exchange, that during a single month of the present year no less than 444,200 dozen eggs were received in San Francisco from the eastern states, and all were sold at good prices. This being the case there ought to be a profit in starting an egg plant somewhere in this county.

WAGON ROAD CASE DECIDED.

This morning, in the United States circuit court, Judge Gilbert decided the celebrated case of the United States against the Willamette Valley & Cascade Mountain Wagon Road company in favor of the defendants. The bone of contention in this case was about 600,000 acres of land granted by congress to the company for building the road. The government claimed that the company had never completed the road, and that it should revert. The court held that the west end of the road was completed within the limit expressed in the act, and since the suit was commenced the remainder had been finished. The certificates issued by the governor at the time the work was done could not be called into question, as there was no evidence showing fraud in any respect. It was also decided that Alex Weill and David Cohn, the present owners of the land, had purchased it in good faith and that the government is estopped.—Telegram.

CARDINAL GIBBONS has written a letter in which he favors the opening of the world's fair on Sundays. It is admirably to the point: The Sunday closing of this spectacle would be very unfortunate for many thousands of our countrymen, who would be tempted to spend the day in dissipation. In their name I would favor the opening of the fair on Sunday afternoon to evening, with the provision that all machinery should be stopped and all mechanical and laboring work that will not be urgently necessary should cease. In this I do not see any desecration of the holiness of the day; on the contrary, those who will visit the fair on these days will be inclined to raise their minds and hearts to Him who inspired men who produce such marvelous things.

THE ladies who are getting up the children's building for the world's fair in Chicago, were much troubled for a time by the fact that at a similiar building at the Paris exposition over 3000 children were left by parents who never came back for them again, and who took that means of getting rid of them. The Chicago ladies, however, have now arranged with a benevolent society to take all the foundlings that may be left on their hands and will go ahead with the work. People desiring a miscellaneous assortment of babies can probably have a large variety to choose from, by applying during the fair. —Exchange.

THE bid for the construction of the locks at the Cascades has been accepted by the secretary of war, and it only remains for the contractors to file bonds in the required amount for work to begin. This is the consummation earnestly desired by the producers of eastern Oregon for many years, and means that the Columbia river will be an open highway to the sea in a few years. The first work was done on the locks in 1876, and since that time, under the control of the war department, progress has been slow.

SENATOR CRISP is mad. He was invited to the reform club's banquet but they didn't give him a chance nor even ask him to deliver the speech he had prepared, and Crisp is pouting over it like a two-year-old. The fun of it all is, he had given his address to the reporters in advance, and its publication had to be countermanded.—Statesman.

THE Brownsville Times has a suggestive headline on the title page which means a great deal, and reads as follows: "When Brownsville has reached the top round of Fame's ladder, and our pocketbooks have been swelled to over flowing with the products of honest labor, we shall have fulfilled our mission."

THE city of Portland has passed a police regulation to stop the sale of cigarettes to boys. Now the boys have resorted to smoking pipes; they say it is cheaper, anyway. There is a state law against the sale of cigarettes to boys, but it seems to be a dead letter.

ACCORDING to the report of an individual who has been around the smallpox hospital at Coquille city, cats and dogs seem to be the most dangerous means of spreading the diseases, and makes the statement that eight out ten cats around the hospital died after the third week.

PRUNE growers of Benton county can take wordls of encouragement from the results of those engaged in that business in Douglas county. Several farmers of that section have lifted heavy mortgages on their farms from the profits on their prune orchards.

THE Salem Statesman says Oregon's only and original governor is decidedly opposed to any government aid being extended the Nicaragua canal scheme.

GOULD'S WILL.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—A will containing six thousand words and disposing of $72,000,000 worth of property was filed for probate in Surrogate Ranson's court this afternoon by Judge John F. Dillon. It was that of Jay Gould. Judge Dillon said the original documents contained nothing new additional to the facts already published. Probate Clerk Tierney at once issued citations to the heirs and next of kin for probate of the will, which were made returnable the latter part of this month. Affidavit of the executors, George J. Gould, Helen M. Gould, Edwin and Howard Gould, filed with Probate Clerk Tierney shows the value of the real estate which Mr. Gould left in this state to be two million dollars and the value of the personal property in the state left by him to be $70,000,000.

WANT A THIRD TERM.

Some democrats, intoxicated with their success at the late election, are beginning to talk of Cleveland for a third term in the presidency. They forget that such foolish talk did more harm to the great name of General Grant than anything else during his administration, and wound up with his utter defeat in 1880, after one term had intervened since his occupancy of the presidential chair.—Exchange.

JUDGING from the number of whiskey cure establishments that are springing up in every direction, the Keeley people by no means have a monopoly of the business. The prices have been cut about half within a week. At this rate a poor man will soon be able to keep sober.—Ashland Record.

ATTEMPTS are still being made to wreck the Southern Pacific trains, and the unsuspecting passenger does not realize his danger until the excitement is over. A few days ago two young ladies prevented a wreck of fifteen cars in Cow creek canyon.

SECRETARY TRACY hopes to have in commission by March 3rd, the New York, the Detroit, the Raleigh, the Bancroft, the Monterey and the Machias. Then nineteen new war ships will have been added to the navy during his administration of the department.

A BAD case of smallpox was discovered in a Portland lodging house last week. The dreaded disease is breaking out in several cities of the northwest, and it would be well for people to guard against its gaining a foothold in Corvallis.

COLUMBUS is to be honored by having a series of United States postage stamps dedicated to his discovery—all of which is to keep fresh in the memory the fact that America was discovered.

UNDER the present assessment law Oregon is becoming so badly in debt—we wonder?—that the state must soon become bankrupt if there is not a change made in the law.—Statesman.

Now that the city has purchased the water works, we will have an opportunity to see the theories advanced, by those in favor of its purchase, put in practice.

A PAPER WORTH HAVING.

The old saying that "nothing succeeds like success," is well illustrated by the career of the Rural Northwest, which was founded in Portland, Oregon, a little over a year ago, and has already established itself as the leading agricultural paper of the Pacific northwest. It is hardly necessary to say that the success of this paper is simply the result of merit. It is no cheap concern made up of stereotype plates and stale clippings, but is bright, crisp and clear, filled with original matter which hits the conditions that exist in the Pacific northwest. Among fruit owers it is an especial favorite, as it makes horticulture a leading feature, and gives the best and fullest reports published of the meetings of the state horticultural societies of Oregon and Washington, and includes among its regular contributors in this department such men as Prof. Lake, of the Washington agricultural college; Prof. Washburn, of the Oregon agricultural college, A. T. Hawley and others of eminent ability. The dairy department is maintained with no less vigor, as indicated by the fact that its editor, H. M. Williamson, holds the position of secretary of the of the Oregon State Dairy Association. Live stock and poultry are not neglected, and progressive agriculture is the spirit which animates the general management of the paper.

Among special features are its departments devoted to the "Home Circle" and "Among the Farmers." The latter department is very popular and a special feature with this paper.

One of the peculiar merits of the Rural Northwest is that everything is treated from the practical standpoint of the producer. This handsome 16-page paper, published twice a month, is a paper well worth its subscription price of one dollar per year, and one that every farmer, fruit-grower and dairyman should have and keep.

It gives us pleasure to announce that we have made arragements by which we are able to offer it as a premium to all new subscribers paying us for one year in advance. We could secure some of the Eastern farm papers at much less cost to ourselves, but realize the fact that for this section the cheap class of Eastern agricultural papers are scarcely worth having, and not to be compared in value with the Rural Northwest.

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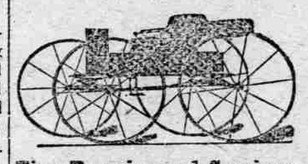

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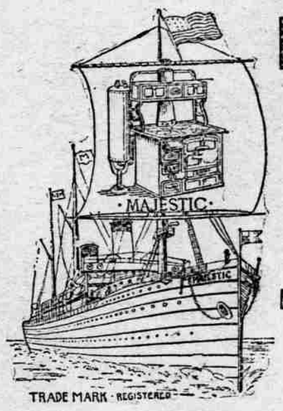

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