

LINCOLN COUNTY LEADER

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TOLEDO OREGON

Naturally enough the brick trust has gone to the wall.

One of the get-rich-quick men has been disposed of satisfactorily by the get-justice-quick process.

Rev. Mr. Sheldon is now in a position to realize with what comparative ease the average preacher earns his salary.

At the same time it is not a bit easier for some folks to borrow trouble than it is for others to lend or even give it.

Nineteen hundred is a year that can be divided by 4, but nevertheless mocks the fond longings of many an eager spinster.

Evidently the judge that upheld a marriage contract made on Sunday went on the old theory that "it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath day."

The daughter of the Sultan, who eloped with a poet, probably figured that it would be impossible for him ever to support more than one wife.

When the Prince of Wales ate a 10-cent dinner the other day the fact was considered to be of sufficient importance to be cabled across the Atlantic at 20 cents a word. Yet some people claim it is the thing that is done which counts and not the person who does it.

The law which provides for the payment of prize money to the navy ought to be abolished. It is a survival of the days of pirates and freebooters, when the United States was unable to afford a respectable navy of its own, and it was necessary to offer inducements to get private owners and adventurous sailors into the business of killing pirates and sinking their vessels. The days of the necessity for blood money, however, are past, and the prize laws should pass with them.

Just as Hungary "is tired of having to stay in bed whenever Austria happens to be taken ill," Norway strains against pulling in team with Sweden, and has recently acquired a separate national flag. Some years ago the venerable Max Muller received a scholarly letter from Dom Pedro of Brazil, which he showed to King Oscar. The monarch of the Scandinavian countries read it with a sigh: "I have no such leisure for Sanskrit. The happy Emperor of Brazil has but one country to govern; I have two."

Rev. Samuel G. Smith in a recent article in Harper's Bazar on "The Place of Women in the World's Work," pleads for the limitation of women in factories and trade and strongly advocates the closing of all wage-earning occupations to girls under 18 years of age. The doctor evidently means well and perhaps in a good many cases his position would hold good and yet there is no doubt that such an arbitrary ruling would be an injustice to many homes. Take for instance the case of a woman bereft of her husband, and left without means with two or three young daughters on her hands. The mother has been a "home" woman, is unskilled in any kind of business or productive industry. Her eldest daughter is but 14 years of age, but is anxious to come to her mother's assistance. She leaves school, learns a trade and at 15 or 16 is qualified for some industry that gives promise of advancement in the future and helps the mother and younger sisters materially for the present. But Dr. Smith says she should be 18 before entering the industrial world. What would he have his mother and her daughters do in the meantime?

All good Americans will heartily endorse the vigorous patriotism of the famous physician, Dr. McBirney, in contradicting the story of his intended retirement to Europe, with the emphatic remark, "I hate Europe. America is good enough for me." It is not necessary to hate Europe, and it is profitable to have seen and studied Europe. It has much that is worth seeing and studying and, moreover, the fair-minded American always likes to examine for himself the evidence on which he is to give an opinion. Travel is good for both mind and body; it is vacation and education. But after the American has taken a good look at Europe he need have no hesitation in declaring with Dr. McBirney that America is good enough for him. It is good enough for anybody. Nowhere else in the world can life be lived under better conditions than in the United States. Alike for the toiler and the capitalist, for ardent youth and tranquil old age, for manhood and womanhood, for the thinker or the worker, for all who really live, it is the land of opportunity, of hope, of progress, of possibilities on the whole surpassing those of the most favored countries of Europe. It is the most interesting country in the world. It is now at the most interesting period of its history. It is struggling with a

greater number of problems and more important ones than any other country. And it is growing more interesting all the time. Its successes and its failures are fraught with vaster consequences for the welfare or detriment of the human race than those of any other country. The American who under any circumstances does not find America good enough for him is simply blind to the most attractive picture in world history.

The school savings bank system established in Champaign and Urbana by the Woman's Club of the Illinois twin cities is reported to be completely successful both in its plan and its execution. The banks are in connection with the public schools, and began three months ago when Mrs. Jullan, a teacher in one of the Urbana schools, was induced to take charge of the savings. Already some twenty of her pupils have bank accounts, twelve of them being above \$5. Since then the Woman's Club has provided blanks and the system is being followed throughout the cities. It is probable, however, that the plan will die when the novelty wears off, as has been the case with school savings banks established in other cities. The expenses and annoyance of management are too great and the reward in glory usually too small for private philanthropy. The only successful plan for encouraging school children to save is the postal savings banks. In Great Britain, for instance, children may obtain cards and paste penny stamps upon them until a shilling is had, and then an account may be opened with the government. A million accounts have been opened thus in England. In France and Belgium 5-centime stamps may be saved until a franc is gained; in Austria 5 kreutzer stamps until 50 kreutzers are had, and in the latter country there are 479,418 children who have bank accounts. To be sure there are dime savings banks in the United States, but they sometimes fail. If postal savings banks existed in America there would be certainly some provision for saving pennies as there is in Europe.

Propositions to abolish the death penalty have been under discussion this season in two or three Legislatures. The movement makes slow progress; for, after more than fifty years of agitation, there are only five States—Colorado, Rhode Island, Maine, Michigan and Wisconsin—in which the death penalty is forbidden by law. The advocates of the change insist that capital punishment is brutalizing; that it does not act as a deterrent to crime; and that it defeats the ends of justice by making juries reluctant to convict when they know that a verdict of guilty will carry with it the death sentence. Such a case as that which recently occurred in New York, where a convict, sentenced to life imprisonment for murder, was proved innocent and pardoned after serving twenty-two years, is cited as evidence of the irreparable wrong which would have been done, if the death sentence at first imposed upon him had been carried out. On the other hand, it is argued that the death penalty really does deter from crime; that statistics show that, through the abuse of the pardoning power, the average term of life imprisonment has been reduced to confinement for only ten or twelve years; that the increased prison population, where the death penalty is abolished, puts a heavy burden on the public; and that convicts under a life sentence are a dangerous charge, because they can murder their keepers without incurring any heavier penalty than that which they are already undergoing. The recent lynching of a Colorado convict, who had escaped from the penitentiary after killing a prison official, is explained as a protest against the disuse of the death penalty. In Michigan there is a strong agitation for the restoration of capital punishment. Iowa once abolished the death penalty, and later restored it; and Maine, after abolishing it, restored it, and later abolished it again. While the movement to do away with capital punishment makes slow progress, humanizing influences are gaining ground. The scandal of public executions has been abolished in most States; there are about twenty States in which the court may substitute life imprisonment, either at its own discretion or upon the recommendation of the jury; and three States, New York, Ohio and Massachusetts, have substituted the electric chair for the hangman's rope.

Good Gunnery.

Some extraordinary shooting by the British gunners is recorded. The conditions of firing were that each gun crew should score what it could in three minutes, beginning at 2,200 yards, diminishing to 1,000 yards and then increasing to 2,200 yards again. It is asserted that the Blake fired 14 shots from ten guns, hitting the target 110 times. The best crew fired eight shots and made fifteen hits. The Royal Arthur's best gun crew hit the target fourteen times out of eighteen shots.

A cup has to be too small to drink out of before the women will admit that it is pretty.

A pretty and becoming new dress and hat are fountain of youth enough for almost any woman.

TEN ACRES AND MARY.

I'm up an' away
At break o' day,
An' never of work I'm weary;
For I sing this song
As I toil along—
"I've got ten acres and Mary!"

Troubles enough—
For the worl' is rough
An' things will go contrary;
But ever this song,
As I trudge along—
"I've got ten acres and Mary!"

No angel bright,
With wings of light;
Of an angel I'd grow weary;
But a woman true,
That's a jay to you—
"I've got ten acres and Mary!"
—Atlanta Constitution.

THE FACE HE SAW

TWO blind people who love each other.

He, an ungainly, stunted figure, with a very homely face; she, tall, thin, of yellowish complexion and of sickly appearance.

Benevolent people had placed them in a blind asylum years before. There they were brought up.

As children they had played together, and were contented and happy. The pleasures of the world were as strong to them as its daily miseries. They knew that quiet, comfortable house, its large garden—and nothing more. There they belonged. They could know nothing of what was going on outside. One thing only was clear to them and that was—that they loved each other.

A hot summer day. * * *

The two sat on a bench in the garden chatting.

"Paul, I am so glad."
"On what account, Anna?"

"Ah! Don't you know? To-morrow—"

"Yes. To-morrow the famous oculist will be here."

"And he will make us both see."
"If he is really able to accomplish that."

"You are joking. Of course, he will be able to do it. That is his business."
"Then, at last, I shall be able to see your lovely face. Of that I am glad."

"And of nothing else?"
"Nothing."

"Paul," said she, laughing quietly, "how do you know that I have a lovely face?"

"Because I have seen you twice already—in a dream. You had golden hair and wings as white as snow."

"Oh! if that were only true!"
"It is quite certain."

"Was I so beautiful?" she asked, seizing him by the hand: "so beautiful? But when I reflect, Paul, I think it would be even better for us to be true to each other than to be able to see. That would be lovely. Don't you think so?"

"I know not," he answered thoughtfully; and then both were silent. * * *

The eventful day had passed. The operation on the eyes had been performed. If not all a delusion, it must prove a success.

"Neither of you must take the bandage off the eyes for fourteen days!" Such was the doctor's order before he left.

On the next evening, after the sun had gone down, the two were again seated in the garden, clinging close to each other.

"Paul, when will we first see each other?"

"In fourteen days!"

"I know, but that is much too long. Eight days would certainly be long enough."

"Less time than that, perhaps; but we have the doctor's order."

"I cannot endure to wait so long. What if the operation has been a failure, and we have rejoiced in vain! What then?"

He was silent.
"For all that, we could—"

"Anna!"

"Only for a moment, dear Paul. It will surely not be wrong."

"You will, notwithstanding—"

"Only for a moment. We will put the bandages on again immediately. You need not be at all afraid. Please, please!"

"Rather let us wait. We have suffered many years. Let us endure it a few days longer."

"No, I cannot wait. If you love me, do it, or I will myself alone."

He hesitated a while, but at length answered calmly: "We will do it."

"When?"

"To-morrow morning early—here at this bench."

"Thanks. You will come at the appointed time?"

"Yes."
"Good-night."
"Good-night. I hope you will have a good sleep." * * *

Morning twilight.
Paul has been long out of bed. He is in dread of the next hour. Anna, of course, is beautiful, but he? Who knows how ugly he may be? Perhaps he is handsome also, but he can never appear before her in this dreadful uncertainty.

"Off with the bandage!"

He tore it loose and threw it on the table. His eyes were still closed. He ran to the cupboard and searched there until he found a small mirror. He then went to the window, where he seated himself and waited. His heart beat violently; his head was in a glowing heat.

In feverish anxiety he sat there, his sightless eyes fixed on the little glass, which his fingers held in a firm clasp. It must now decide his fate. In a few minutes he would have certain knowledge.

Clear daylight came.

He felt the light, opened his eyes slowly and stared at the mirror, trembling all the while with torturing expectation. No, no, no! But see! What is that? Could that be himself? An old, pock-marked, ugly face! He? Those pale, sunken cheeks, that red, tousled hair, those decayed teeth, that long neck? It could not be possible. No; it must not be!

He closed his eyes, leaned far out of the window, opened them wide and looked again. His image was still there, unchanged. Still he would not believe it. In horror he kept on staring at the glass until it became clouded. Then a veil seemed drawn slowly over his eyes. It grew more and more indistinct; darkness gathered all about him, and suddenly everything was black. He saw no more.

Despair seized him. He thought he had become insane. He threw the mirror away, stamped with his feet and struck himself in the face. Anna would see him, and she would be horrified. She would forsake him—ugly and blind—and she would go away into the sunny world and forget him. He must remain behind, helpless and alone. All the happiness was gone forever.

He sank into a chair and sobbed like a little child.

Suddenly he started up. A well-known hand caressed his head.

"Is it you, Paul?" he heard her ask in a whisper.

"Yes," said he, breathing heavily.

"Paul, I looked for you everywhere in the garden and could not find you. Then I took off the bandage."

"And do you see me?" cried Paul in deadly alarm.

"I must say that I do not. No, no! It is just as dark as it was before. The operation was a failure. I see nothing whatever."

"And I nothing," said Paul exultingly. "I also took off the bandage, at once everything became quite dark."

"Now," said Anna with a sigh, "we must remain forever blind."

"It is better so," answered Paul with a happy heart; and he tenderly embraced his poor blind friend.

DIVORCES IN VARIOUS STATES.

Oklahoma the Only One that Believes in Making Separation Easy.

With the enactment of the law requiring one year's residence in North Dakota before a divorce can be granted, another State joined the decent majority of those which are not inclined to make things easy for people who wish to be separated from wife or husband.

Oklahoma is now the only State or territory in which only ninety days' residence is required.

The term of residence now required in other States is as follows:

SIX MONTHS.
Arizona, Idaho, Nebraska, Nevada, South Dakota, Texas and Wyoming.

ONE YEAR.
Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin.

TWO YEARS.
Florida, Indiana, Maryland, North Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont.

THREE YEARS.
Connecticut, New Jersey.

FIVE YEARS.
Massachusetts (unless parties are residents at the time of marriage).

During the reign of the ninety-day residence law divorces were sometimes granted on curious grounds. For instance, a woman was granted a divorce because her husband did not bathe frequently enough, thereby causing her great mental anguish. Another man slept with a razor under his pillow, solely to frighten his wife, who was accordingly given a divorce. A third defendant made his wife climb a step-ladder to drive nails in the woodshed; one woman complained that her husband treated her as a child; another got a divorce because her husband enlisted in the navy; a decree was issued to a woman whose husband cut off her bangs.

Infected Fish.

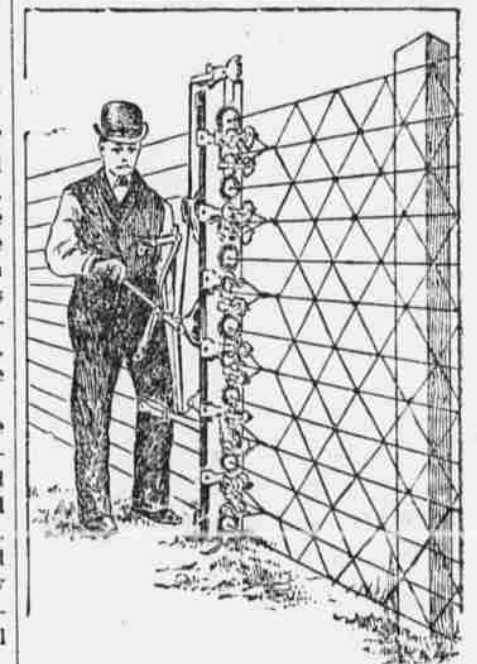
Tuberculosis has been communicated to fishes by French bacteriologists, and proves fatal very quickly to them, whether the bacilli are derived from human beings, rabbits, or hens, or from previously infected fish. Tuberculous bacilli from fish, however, have very little effect when injected into rabbits and fowls, the inference being that their power is attenuated in the colder blood of the fish.

Remember when telling a joke that all of your hearers are trying to figure how many times they had heard it before.

WEAVES WIRE FENCES.

Machine Which Will Rapidly Construct a Serviceable Fence.

Since the use of wire fences in one form or another has become so great on our Western plains, in Australia and South Africa, the development of machines for their construction has been brought to a high state of perfection. Our illustration, which represents an improved wire-fence weaving machine, shows quite clearly how strong and serviceable fence may be constructed in position very rapidly and cheaply. The horizontal strands of wire are first attached to a post and breaded through the several guides on the weaving machine and continued to a movable standard some distance



WEAVES FENCES IN POSITION.

farther along. The weaving machine carries a number of spools of wire, and when it is started in operation the weaving of the fence progresses rapidly in the form shown. The several spools on this fence machine are made to revolve around the guiding strands of wire, the wire being automatically uncoiled from them. After several revolutions of the spools, produced by a hand-wheel, the machine is unlimbered by means of a lever and is moved back a few inches further, and the same operation repeated. When a sufficient length of fence has been woven a post is placed in position and the wire fence attached to it, when the standard carrying the foundation wire is moved along for another length.

OTTO OF BAVARIA.

Remarkable Story of the Insane Monarch and His First Love.

The following remarkable story is related about the unhappy King Otto of Bavaria. This last week he ate almost nothing for some days, although his appetite is usually unnaturally good. He sobbed, wailed and screamed unintermittently for hours, and even became at times dangerous. One morning, however, his physician and a keeper cautiously pushed aside the heavy brocade curtain which divides their bedroom from that of the poor monarch and found him with tears running down his cheeks, gazing into a little silver case which they had often seen in a drawer, the key to which King Otto wore on a fine steel chain round his neck.

As soon as the King perceived that he was watched he turned round and smiled so happily and naturally that the doctor, surprised, stepped nearer. Wearing the same joyful expression the King cried out to him: "Countess L. has passed a better night. She is now out of danger." He then carefully locked up the little silver box, which contained nothing but a few dried strawberries, and spent a very quiet day. He also enjoyed his dinner again.

This is the other part of the story. In 1867 there was a merry picnic in a wood. Among the guests was the lovely seventeen-year-old Countess L., with whom the young Prince fell madly in love at first sight. He sat next to her at lunch, paid her the greatest attention, and then disappeared with her into the wood. As the young people did not return, and it was getting late, the mother of the Countess became anxious, and sent men servants out in all directions. The culprits were found with their hats full of strawberries, which they were merrily eating. The next morning they were separated forever.

Prince Otto went with the King to Munich, and the youthful Countess was sent to the Convent of Misericorde, where she has remained up to this day. During the few days throughout which the King had shown such unfavorable symptoms, the girl whom he had loved in his youth was really lying dangerously ill in her cell. Somehow or other—how is not stated—the incurably insane monarch had become aware of the fact.—Berlin cable London News.

The Reason.

In one of his books Mark Twain observes that the reason there is comparatively little arable land in Spain is because the great majority of the Spanish people are in the habit of squandering it on their persons, and when they die it is buried with them.

There would be no objections to a man riding his hobby if he would only give people an opportunity to get out of his way.