

LINCOLN COUNTY LEADER.

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TOLEDO.....OREGON.

If Rev. Charles M. Sheldon has tackled the servant girl problem in real earnest he has a job for life.

Joseph Chamberlain has demonstrated that even a man who wears a monocle may be hot stuff to handle.

The aspirations of the world may be more than ever for peace, but the world was never better prepared to fight for it.

In the St. Etienne district of France wood has been made into silk. Possibly that proverbial sow's ear may yet be made into a silk purse.

A Western preacher announces that "the devil is in mince pies." We would like to know what he would think if he tried lobster after 11 o'clock at night.

There is a whole sermon on the littleness of greatness in the fact that the Autocrat of All the Russias was downed by a circumstance so small as a microbe.

An obviously befogged judge has held that a woman ought to be home not later than midnight. It is perfectly clear that the need of the hour is for a legal decision requiring men to return to the domestic hearth before daylight. The women are doing well enough as it is.

It is said that Formosan savages are puzzled by an extremely simple arithmetical problem. If two of them are to share five articles of food, they divide by taking two apiece and throwing the fifth away. But that is not so bad, after all. It even shows that they have made progress. In earlier times, the stronger of the two would have disposed of his unesteemed contemporary, and appropriated the whole. It is a movement onward and upward when the rights of others are recognized and respected.

A Parisian by the name of Le Bargy flatly says the Prince of Wales does not know how to dress, and besides has not the figure to make his clothes set well if he did know. Does monsieur understand what he is doing in thus ruthlessly destroying the model of the Anglo-manliness? Already the latter have been halting between two opinions as to whether it is proper to crease their pantaloons. The dictum of Wales, who says they ought to be ironed out, has been the only voice crying in the wilderness of doubt as to the proper thing in trousers. And now this Frenchman, who is a sort of Beau Brummel, not only discredits but ridicules the prophet of propriety in breeches. In this exigency the Chawly boys must take to the woods.

The English tongue, like the English drumbeat, is heard around the world. In 1801 only 20,250,000 people used the language. Now 135,000,000 speak it, and that comprises 30 per cent of the world's population. Recognizing these facts, Emperor William has decreed that English shall be made equal to Greek in the German gymnasia, displacing French as a necessary study, and he is also planning to give it a place in the higher schools of the empire. This is another triumph for the Anglo-Saxon tongue. The French tongue, once the court language of Europe, and the language which gave passport to polished society in all the salons of the old world, is being displaced by the vigorous English, the speech of commercialism and of political liberty.

One of the first results of Cuban emancipation from Spanish misgovernment is the diminution of yellow fever and its virtual extinction in some localities. Santiago, once a foul pest hole, has not had a single case of yellow fever in a year. Under the American administration dirt is declared criminal and a general cleaning up was ordered. That this was thorough is apparent from a glance at the statistics, and that it was effective is clear from the immunity enjoyed. The best evidence that the Cubans are themselves ready to learn the lessons of freedom and self-government is the ready acquiescence with the American sanitary plans, even though the traditions of hundreds of years were violated and in most cases domestic sloth, so comfortable in inert people, rudely disturbed.

At the recent meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union, the committee on bird protection submitted an encouraging report of work done during the past year. With the co-operation of lighthouse-keepers, captains of life-saving stations and owners of islands on which gulls and terns breed, the plume-hunters were kept away from fields which have heretofore yielded their largest returns. Under the Lacey bill, passed at the last session of Congress, the society was able to seize the bodies of twenty-six hundred birds from a Maryland dealer and to bring

suit against him. The good effect of this action was felt at once. All the wholesale milliners in Baltimore asked to have their stock inspected, and offered to withdraw whatever was held illegally. It is worth noting that among the many ladies present at the meeting of the union not one wore a hat trimmed with birds or feathers. The members evidently practise what they preach.

At a meeting of the Royal United Service Institution in London recently some pretty high compliments were paid to the American navy. The principal speaker was Admiral Sir John Hopkins, who delivered a lecture on the British navy. The admiral quoted a criticism made by an American naval officer on the coast defense of England—a criticism which he felt constrained to admit was just. In so doing he complimented the American organizing faculty as shown in the methods of securing co-operation between the land and naval forces in coast defense. Speaking of warships Admiral Hopkins declared that England was falling behind in the matter of speed. He named other countries in this connection, saying that the English were sticking to the twenty-knotter, while others were building vessels with a speed of twenty-three knots. He said we were leading also in the matter of colliers. As to that, he thought we were building our colliers too large. But another admiral present—Henderson—thought we were right as to size as well as in other respects, and he gave good reasons for his opinion. But perhaps the highest compliment was an indirect one paid by Admiral Sir Vesey Hamilton, who testily found fault with the lecturer for admitting that the English had anything to learn from the American about warships and defenses. Not finding anything better to say, he went back to the war of 1812 for argument against America. During that war, he said, "with a few ships we kept the entire Atlantic coast of the United States in terror. Furthermore, our general methods of naval warfare were such that America's commerce by sea was reduced to almost nothing, while ours was increased. It is not hard to tell who got licked in that war." The fact that the admiral thought it necessary to go back and fight the war of 1812 over again was as good as an admission that in naval ideas and methods the English may be able to learn a little from the Americans if they will.

The death of Sir Arthur Sullivan caused more genuine sense of loss, to a greater number of people, than would have been felt if a dozen men whose place in history may be higher than his were to end their lives together. His work was many-sided in a field where the emotions are stirred and exceeding pleasure is given to those who are fortunate enough to have a natural joy in music. If the author of songs like "The Lost Chord," hymns such as "Onward, Christian Soldiers," and an oratorio of the merit of "The Light of the World" had never produced any operatic music he would still have left a deep impression upon a host of admirers. But if Sir Arthur Sullivan's only contribution to the art of his times had been his delightful and sparkling operas he would deserve for that alone very wide and sincere admiration and honor. It would be hard to overestimate the direct and indirect effect for good of such work as "Patience," "Pinafore," "The Mikado," "The Pirates of Penzance," and others less popular, but not in all cases less admirable. They did much to lead other composers up to cleaner, better work than had been done in light operas. They set a fashion which was altogether for the good of the stage and a strong force on the side of sound public morals. It is only necessary to compare the best of the operas for which Sir Arthur Sullivan furnished the music and W. S. Gilbert the librettos with most of the earlier works of the same general field to understand how cleansing, salubrious, and beneficial the work of that great team of opera-makers was. They have affected the musical taste and morals of millions of playgoers of their time, and for the better. That is a good title to lasting honor. So a vast number of people who have never ceased to hope for more delightful surprises like "Pinafore" and "The Mikado" will deeply and keenly regret the death of the best known British composer of this generation. It is a loss to many countries, for Sir Arthur Sullivan's music was much enjoyed in Germany, Italy, and other European lands, as well as wherever English is the mother tongue of nations. It leaves a void not easy to fill, and there is no present promise of any worthy successor in his most distinctive lines of work.

France's Costly Parliament.

The most costly parliament in Europe is that of France. The Senate and Chamber of Deputies cost annually \$1,500,000.

Early Education in China.

One of the tasks of Chinese children beginning their education is that of learning the A B C at 3 years old.

When people we don't like die suddenly, it is always a "judgment."

GARDEN OF EDEN FOR RENT.

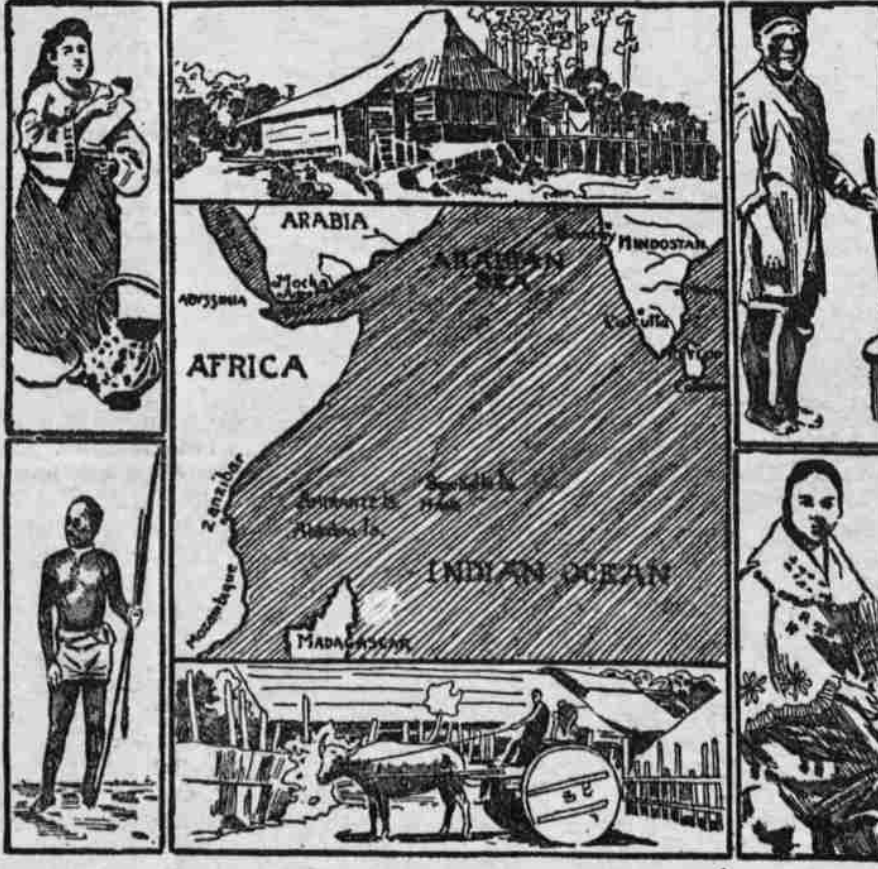
The British Government Offers the Seychelles for Lease.

Somebody, having the price and being so disposed, may take a long term lease on the site of the Garden of Eden. The British government of the Seychelles in the Indian Ocean has given notice that bids will be received for periods of nine, twenty-one and thirty years on the islands of the Aldabra group proper, the Cosmoledo group, and the islands of Astove and Assumption. As to just which one of the islands was the home of Adam and Eve, however, the man who takes the lease must determine.

According to travelers almost any of these islands might easily fill the fanciful conditions that may have existed with the first man. There "every prospect pleases," and on many of the islands there are no men to be vile. The lessee of these islands will take them for purely commercial purposes, but their settings are considered to be ideal for dreamer or painter.

Fixing upon the Seychelles group as having contained the site of Eden, the archaeologist has had little more to guide him than has one who chose the South Sea Islands. The four quarters of the globe have been settled upon by one or another as the place of this garden described in Genesis, but in the Seychelles selection the beauties of the islands have been emphasized as lending color to the belief.

There are eighty of these in the general group, having an area of about 102 English square miles. Of these eighty islands only eighteen are inhabited. They rise from a bank, submerged from ten to forty fathoms, and lie almost on the equator, in the blue of the Indian Ocean. Aden, on the Suez Canal, is 1,400 miles northwest, and Zanzibar is 1,000 miles west. The islands were discovered by the Portuguese at the beginning of the sixteenth century, but



LOCATION AND SKETCHES IN THE SEYCHELLES.

they made no efforts to occupy them. The French took possession of the group in 1742, calling them after Count Hérault de Seychelles of the East Indian fleet. The British wrested them from the French in 1794, taking Mauritius also. Mahe is the largest island and has the seat of government, called Victoria. This capital is an admiralty coaling station, about thirty days' travel from London.

Most of these islands rise deeply from the sea. Those of the Aldabra group and the islands of Mauritius and Reunion are of volcanic origin. The Seychelles proper are of granite formation, and from them to the west the sea deepens rapidly until soundings have been taken from 9,000 to 12,000 feet.

Most peculiar of these island groups are the Seychelles, with their towering mountains, crowned with castellated blocks of gray granite and even the valleys studded with them. The mountains rise from 2,600 to 3,000 feet above sea level and are sources of many of the rapid streams that course through the islands. The rainfall in a year may aggregate 100 inches or more, and these wash down the granite fragments from the hills, cutting gorges and canyons in the rock formation. The rocks, however, serve the purpose of retaining the rich soil of the islands and most of them are jungles of tropical vegetation.

It is a land of ease and plenty. Creoles from Mauritius and Reunion effected a settlement of the main islands about 150 years ago. In 1850 negroes were imported as laborers from Mozambique. Europeans, Indians and Chinese have followed until the population of the eighteen inhabited islands is about 20,000 of all shades, most of them speaking the French tongue, in spite of the 100 years' occupancy by the British.

Until the English commissioners took up the government of the Seychelles piracy was one of the evils of that portion of the Indian Ocean. The British broke this up, however, and for many years the islands have been the home

of the indolent. To-day the island industries are fishing and the growing of tropical fruits and vegetables. The coconut palm is one of the chief sources of revenue to the island. Sugar cane, vanilla, cloves, pepper, coffee and sweet potatoes are produced in great quantities.

Leprosy has a foothold in the islands, and Curieuse has been set aside for them. This disease is not marked by the average visitor, but it is said that 10 per cent of the population is afflicted with it.

ODD USES OF INDIAN CORN.

Many Foods Were Made of It at the Paris Exposition.

At the Paris Exposition there was a little showcase wherein were displayed the more important Indian corn products of this country. They made an amazing display, including the following articles:

Cornmeal, hominy, hulled corn, cream of maize, granulated cornmeal, malzena, samp, degerminated samp, cream meal, self-rising pancake flour, quick malt, brewers' grits, husks for mattresses, cellulose for packing the coffee dams of battle-ships, paper stock prepared from cornstalk, degerminated brewers' meal, bourbon whisky, alcohol, bolted cornmeal, hulled cornmeal, feed of ground blades, stalks and cobs, varnish, cob pipes, corn lager beer, table syrup, popcorn, table grits, British gum, salves, laundry starch, table starch, frumentum, flaked hominy, gum paste, corn oil, vulcanized corn oil, of cake, grape sugar, gluten feed, glucose, confectioners' crystal, glucose and confectioners' paste. Corn oil vulcanized forms the basis of a substitute for rubber.

This substitute, compounded with 60 per cent commercial rubber, is used in rubber boots, linoleum, wheel tires, blankets and other articles. Crude corn

oil has been used in the manufacture of toilet soap. Rectified it is as clear as alcohol and is the base of a substitute for olive oil. Cornstalk pith is of value in making paper, varnish, films, imitation silks and guncotton and other explosives.

China's Coal Fields.

China contains some of the richest coal deposits in the world. Last fall Prof. Drake, of Tien-tsin, visited the coal fields in the province of Shansi, which were examined by Baron von Richtofen in 1870, and found that they are of immense extent. The coal area is said to be greater than that of Pennsylvania, and the anthracite coal alone contained in these fields has been estimated at 630,000,000 tons. The Shansi coal beds are so thick and lie so uniformly in a horizontal position that the practicability has been suggested of running long lines of railway tunnels through the beds so that the cars can be loaded in the mines all ready for distant transportation.

Problems of the Ages.

The lecturer on occult science clasped her hands and leaned forward on the stand in front of her.

"I have endeavored," she said, "to make this subject as plain as its inherently mysterious nature will permit. Before I take my seat, however, I will wait a moment to answer any question you may like to ask for the purpose of clearing up whatever points may still seem obscure to you."

"I wish you could tell me, ma'am," asked a hollow-voiced, cadaverous man, rising up in a distant corner of the hall, "why women kiss each other."—Chicago Tribune.

Guards the Chickens Well.

According to an American the best guardian for poultry is a Scotch collie. It is readily taught to guide ducks, geese, etc., to their feeding grounds and bring them back. The collie, it appears, takes a lively interest in the work and his courage makes him a good protector.

SOUVENIR OF A TRAGEDY.

Lorgnette Presented to a Senator's Wife by Booth.

The daughter of a United States Senator has a lorgnette which was presented to her mother by J. Wilkes Booth. The story, which is now printed for the first time, is as follows:

Booth rented a room the night before the assassination in the Washington Hotel, where Henry Clay died. The house was crowded with guests, and the corridors after dinner were filled with women of note and beauty. Booth, who was fond of admiration, commingled with the assemblage, and was presented to many. He carried a handsomely mounted lorgnette which a Senator's wife complimented. She knew the Booth family, Edwin Booth having been a guest at her home. This fact was sufficient warrant for J. Wilkes Booth to be unusually gracious, and when the Senator's wife admired the actor's lorgnette he begged the favor of presenting it to her. The following night occurred the tragedy. In the preliminary investigation which followed the Senator's wife and another woman who was with her the evening she met Booth were subjected to a most rigid inquiry as to Booth's manner.

The daughter of the Senator's wife, now a prominent society woman of her home, tells this story in connection with the investigation:

"My poor mother was questioned and cross-questioned by a lawyer and a detective touching her meeting with Booth. But she was unable to give them any information concerning Booth's manner except that he was gallant. Hard as they tried to learn anything from her, she could remember nothing showing that Booth contemplated crime, nothing indicating that he ever thought of such a thing. He was in a jovial mood and spoke of some future events with confidence. I do not think my mother ever quite recovered from the effects of the incident. She kept the lorgnette for some years, never using it, however, and finally she presented it to me. I am not superstitious, but I have never yet tried to use this lorgnette that something unusual did not occur. The first night I carried it my horse had an accident which made us late in arriving at the theater, and when we got there we found the play postponed. Once it was misplaced and suddenly turned up. On another occasion it was loaned to a friend, who was taken ill in her box and nearly died before she got home. I still have it, but I have never used it, although I mean to some day."—Philadelphia Item.

A Rattlesnake Trap.

Rattlesnakes were the most dangerous wild animals with which the early settlers of New Jersey had to contend. They were very numerous, and their bite, if not treated properly at once, was generally fatal. In "Stories from American History" F. R. Stockton cites an incident which gives an idea of the abundance of rattlers in the new colony.

In a quarry, from which the workmen were engaged in getting out stone for the foundations of Princeton College, a wide crack in the rocks was discovered, which led downward to a large cavity, and in this cave were found about twenty bushels of rattlesnake bones.

There was no reason to believe that this was a snake cemetery, to which the creatures retired when they supposed they were approaching the end of their days; but it was, without doubt, a great rattlesnake trap.

The winding, narrow passage leading to it must have been very attractive to a snake seeking retired quarters in which to take its long winter nap. Although the cave at the bottom of the great crack was easy enough to get into, it was so arranged that it was difficult, if not impossible, for a snake to get out of it, especially in the spring, when these creatures are very thin and weak, having been nourished all winter by their own fat.

Thus year after year the rattlesnakes must have gone down into that cavity, without knowing that they could never get out again.

When Juba Hit It.

"After having supplied a moonshiner in a South Carolina jail with a month's supply of smoking tobacco," said a government surveyor, "I presumed upon the deed to ask:

"'Didn't you know it was against the law to manufacture moonshine whisky?'

"'I heard that was a law once,' he replied.

"'What do you mean by once?'

"'Why, Juba French told me thar was sich a law, but when I asked Jim Truman about it he says that Juba is sich a liar that nobody kin believe him under oath, and so I reckoned I was safe to go ahead. Shoo, but I wonder how Juba come to tell the truth fur that one time!'"—Washington Post.

Or Start an "Ideal" Daily Paper.

She—"Just imagine! Suppose you were so immensely wealthy that you couldn't possibly spend your income. What would you do?'

He—"Marry you."—Harper's Bazar.

Every mother believes her baby is so nice that lots of wicked people are waiting for an opportunity to steal it.