

## LINCOLN COUNTY LEADER.

CHAS. F. & ADA E. SOULE, Pubs.

TOLEDO.....OREGON.

Good evening; have you invented a new breakfast food to-day?

Count Boni de Castellane has an overcoat which cost \$11,000. The price of his new corsets is not named.

Secretary Wyndham is predicting an end of the Irish row. The Secretary evidently needs a rest. His mind seems affected.

Sixty-four divorces were granted in New York in one day recently, and a whole lot of people were left unsatisfied even then.

Sir Henry Irving cables that he will come again next year. He too, it seems, is one of those who never can get quite enough.

The other day a practical joker fastened a crab to a mule's tail, and was kicked to death in just about two seconds. Kindly omit flowers.

It has been found that antitoxin will cure rattlesnake bites. It isn't likely, however, that the new cure will make much headway in Kentucky.

A preacher says the Ten Commandments are out of date and not applicable to present day life. Still, there are three or four of them that we had better stick to just to be on the safe side.

Ambitious youths should not jump hastily to the conclusion that the quickest and surest way to get rich is to become a burglar or train robber. Occasionally one of these fellows is nabbed.

Politicians south of the equator are again talking about the United States of South America. As a preliminary, the union of Chili and the Argentine Republic was seriously proposed by the commander of the Chilean army at a dinner in Santiago last month.

Andrew Carnegie has asked the Workmen's National Housing Council of London to tell him how five or ten million dollars can advantageously be spent in building model dwellings for the poor. He seems to have concluded with Gen. Booth of the Salvation Army that a man who is poorly housed and inadequately fed will seldom aspire to higher things.

Literary Paris is interested just now in the achievements of a little girl who, although only ten years of age, is said to "have written seven plays, five novels and a volume of poems." Such infant prodigies are happily rare; but it is always possible to gather an audience—curious, if not admiring—for any one who attempts to portray experiences she has not undergone and emotions she cannot comprehend. Doctor Johnson suggested the explanation when speaking of another kind of performance. "It is not done well," said he; "but you are surprised to find it done at all."

Hazing is always cowardly, because the victim is overpowered by numbers and taken at disadvantage when he has no chance of resistance. It is utterly lawless and brutal because it violates the sanctity of the victim's person and subjects him to gross indignity, to which no man willingly submits so long as he has any chance of resistance. From whatever standpoint it is viewed hazing is detestable, and it is particularly demoralizing because it rests for defense upon the plea that the social manners and habits of a young man at college may properly be regulated by various kinds of physical outrage and insult whose practice is forbidden by law.

A most curious and interesting experiment recently took place at Aldershot, in England. The guns and gun carriages of a battery of artillery, having been painted with daubs and streaks of red, blue and yellow, were placed in position on outlying hills, and artillery officers were sent out to locate them. The odd style of painting made the guns harmonize so completely with the background that at a distance of three thousand yards they could not be located even with field glasses. The officers all knew in what direction the guns lay, yet not one was able to point them out. Some horse artillery sent forward to engage the guns advanced within one thousand yards before they discovered the battery.

The uses of photography are constantly extending. A Western railroad now uses it as a substitute for written reports on construction work. For example, the progress of the work of changing a grade crossing or building a bridge is photographed at stated periods, and the photographs are preserved both as a record and as illustrations of method. Pictures are also taken of all the resources of the road in the way of material, and of every mile of track, showing curves, grades,

switches and crossings. A complete set of photographs is used, too, to illustrate the book of rules which is placed in the hands of every railroad man. This enables the men to refresh their memories by reference to the view of any particular point of the road, and makes them more readily interchangeable from one division to another. The book of rules also contains photographs of trains in more than one hundred combinations of circumstances, and the text informs the trainmen what to do in each case.

Although only about two years have passed since the Commonwealth of Australia was founded, many discontented Australasians are urging the dissolution of the union. Robert Philp, premier of Queensland, said recently that not more than one-fifth of the voters in his state favor the continuance of the federation, and that the voters in the states of New South Wales and Western Australia are as hostile to the union as those in Queensland. How far their dissatisfaction will carry them no one can say; but the crisis through which Australia is passing is not without precedent in the British Empire. The Canadian federation, which was created by act of Parliament only thirty-five years ago, was not a harmonious one in its earlier stages. But eventually the dissatisfied elements were appeased, and the union of the provinces in the Dominion of Canada is almost as close and as strong as the union of this great republic. It is probable that the threats of secession in Australia will have as little result as did the similar threats in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and British Columbia at various periods in the history of the Dominion. The act of Parliament which created a commonwealth out of the separate Australian states did not provide for dissolution. The importance of the union was recognized the world over. After a time the minor grievances will be redressed and harmony will be restored.

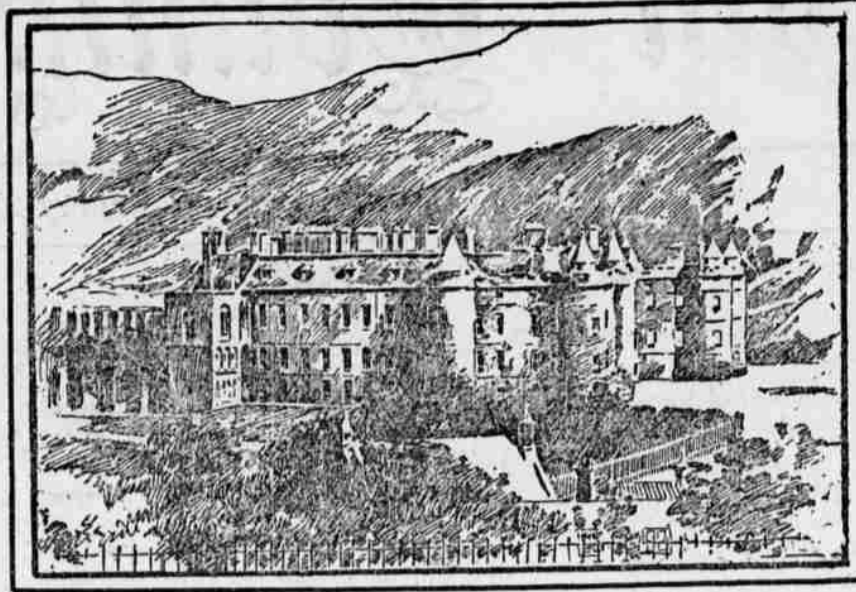
The judicial oracle who classified perjured witnesses as "liars, — liars and expert witnesses" was justified recently in a New York courtroom. A handwriting expert was testifying. "Is handwriting analysis an exact science?" queried the cross-examiner. "In some cases it is and in some cases it isn't," was the exact reply. Which recalls the famous ruling by the president of a woman's club: "The chair decides that sometimes this association is bound by its constitution and sometimes it isn't." "Is analysis of handwriting based on the law of probability?" inquired the cross-examiner. "To a great extent, yes," answered the expert. "Do you know any other exact science that depends on the law of probability?" asked the cornering cross-examiner. "I don't know 's I do," was the candid reply. The expert had made drawings of the characteristic letters in the chirography under consideration. "Are the illustrations you have made there intended to be more or less like the originals?" "More," confessed the expert. The expert admitted that he could "draw some" and had the ability to "enlarge or contract the characteristics" of the letters he was under oath literally to reproduce. The cross-examination closed with the expert's admission that he was paid in the case to draw letters "differently from the originals." Expert testimony in relation to handwriting will never be worth the time it takes to present and expose it so long as the alleged experts may be employed by the parties to a case instead of by the court alone as aids in ascertaining truth. Even then handwriting experts will be good for little. No human being capable of holding a pen writes the same word exactly the same way twice in a lifetime unless his pen fingers are automatic. The state of a man's temper, the condition of his liver, the degree of pressure exerted at the moment on his time or attention, the kind of pen, of ink, of paper, affect the writing muscles. Honest men are unable if they write much, especially in a hurry, always to read their own chirography. How little reliance must be placed upon the interested asseverations of others who profess to be able not only to identify chirography under all circumstances but to be able to establish handwriting analysis as an exact science, as if even a signature is always mathematically precise and the perfect replica of every other signature by the same hand. Court anecdote received a rich addition when handwriting reading was pronounced by one of its professors "an exact science based on the law of probability."

**Sir Thomas' Challenge.**  
"I wonder why Sir Tommy Lipton has joined that balloon club?"  
"Maybe he thinks that when he lifts the cup he will lift it high."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Women of wealth sometimes forget to speak to laboring women, but they are afraid to show such pride to the dressmakers.

The mother with her arms full of babies has as much right as a bride with American beauties.

## HOLYROOD PALACE ONCE AGAIN TO BE USED AS A ROYAL SEAT



HOLYROOD PALACE.

Holyrood Palace, at Edinburgh, which King Edward will use for a royal residence, has not been put to that substantial use for upward of 200 years. It was built as an abbey in 1128 by King David I. of Scotland, and is so interwoven with the history of that country as to be the most interesting place in all Caledonia, next to Edinburgh Castle itself. In 1295 James Balfour held a parliament within its walls. James II. was born in it, crowned in it, married in it and buried in it. The nuptials of Princess Margaret of England were celebrated there in 1503. From that time forward the abbey, which had been reconstructed into a palace, became the principal seat of the Scottish sovereigns. Queen Mary lived there upon her return from France in 1561. There, in 1566, Rizzio was torn from her side and stabbed to death on the steps leading to the throne room. Her son, King James VI., dwelt much in the palace before his accession to the English throne in 1603. He revisited the place in 1617. It was garrisoned by Cromwell's troops after the battle of Dunbar. In 1745 it was occupied by Prince Charles Edward, and from 1795 to 1799 it sheltered the Comte d'Artois, afterward King Charles X. of France. For years the old palace has been merely a show place, visited by pilgrims from the four ends of the earth, and reverently loved by the Scotch who see in it the glories of a great and brilliant national history. It occupies a pleasant site and has been kept in splendid repair as the years have flown by and the face of the land has changed.

## MURDERER HELD A SECRET. He Is Pardoned that He May Exploit His Knowledge.

Considerable public interest was recently aroused by the action of Governor Shaw, of Iowa, in paroling a murderer, S. R. Dawson, who claims to have discovered the long lost secret of making Damascus steel and also the process by which copper can be hardened and tempered. It was to prevent the knowledge of this secret from being lost to the world that induced the action of the Iowa executive.

Five years ago, when Dawson was sent to the penitentiary for murder, he was just about to exploit the secrets he had discovered, and a company with ample capital had been formed for that purpose. He was then 49 years old. The men associated with him in the company that had been formed besought him to divulge the secret of his process, but he refused to tell a soul anything about his discovery. The formula, however, he deposited in the safety vault of the Des Moines National Bank. To that vault



S. R. DAWSON.

there are three keys—one held by Dawson, one by the officers of the bank, and the third by the officers of the Damascus Steel Company. It required all three keys to open the vault and it is due to this that Dawson is now a free man. The work of manufacture is to be begun as soon as possible by the company which was organized before Dawson went to prison.

Mr. Dawson has devoted his entire life to the study of metallurgy. His taste for the science comes naturally. His ancestors for generations back have been engaged in the iron business, and one of them, Ralph Hogg, made, in the fifteenth century, the first iron cannon that England ever saw.

Mr. Dawson was sent to the penitentiary for the murder of his son-in-law, Walter Scott. Scott had become infatuated with Dawson's daughter, Clara, and had been paying attention to her for about a year and a half before the murder. At first there were no objections on the part of the girl's parents, but later they became opposed to the young man's attentions and ordered him from the house several times. Then clandestine meetings began between the young couple. Mr. Dawson learned of these meetings, and to prevent them took his daughter away traveling, but was followed from place to place by Scott. Finally Mr. Dawson and his daughter returned to Des Moines, but strangely enough, the girl then refused to marry Scott. One

week later they were married clandestinely, and upon going to the house of her parents for her belongings Scott was shot by Mr. Dawson.

That Dawson has discovered the secret of making Damascus steel is not doubted. A few years ago he erected a blast furnace in Chicago for experiments. He allowed several invited friends to see all but one portion of the process. When the time came for mixing the secret ingredient with the melted metal he banished every one. The finished product he turned out was harder than ordinary steel, more pliant, susceptible of a keener edge. He made some beautiful knife blades that would bend almost double, and also a heavy sabre. He fashioned a cold chisel and tested it beside ordinary chisels on steel girders. The Dawson chisel went through the girder in much less time than ordinary chisels. The workmen had to change tools often in order to get good edges, but when Dawson had finished the edge on his chisel it seemed as good as ever.

## MOHAVES ARE SUPERSTITIOUS. Tribe Clings Zealously to All Its Ancient Customs and Beliefs.

According to a member of the geological survey who has traveled extensively in the west, says the Washington correspondent of the New York Tribune, the Mohave Indians are the most superstitious of any tribe in the United States, and they cling as no other tribe does to their old traditions. "Their god is Mat-o-we-ha," says the scientist, "the maker of all things, the director of the sun, moon and stars, the guardian of the hunting ground, the sender of rain and sunshine and arbiter as to whether the seasons will bring forth luxuriant harvests or famine. His son, Mas-zam-ho, has charge of the white mountain (heaven), and is the guardian of departed spirits, which are supposed to ascend to paradise in smoke, and it is believed all the personal property destroyed in the flames with the deceased will go with him.

"The Mohaves who are not cremated turn into owls, and whenever a hoot of that bird is heard these Indians think it is one of their dead returned. The owl is caught if possible and cremated, that the imprisoned spirit may be set free and allowed to enter the white mountain to find everlasting peace. Through the influence of the government agents the yearly mourning festival of the Mohaves, a most picturesque ceremony, has been abandoned. At these festivals great pyres were lighted outside of the village, on a spot selected as the most pleasing to Mat-o-we-ha and Mas-zam-ho, and when the fire was hottest every member of the tribe would throw his dearest belonging into the flame, believing that it ascended in the thick smoke of the fire straight to the white mountain and into the hands of their dear departed ones, carrying messages of love and remembrance."

## A Safe Petition.

A friend tells a writer in London M. A. P. that he met Mr. Arthur Balfour, the new prime minister of England, one evening at a dinner party. The conversation turned on the importance in life of self-confidence. My friend repeated the saying, "God gie us a guid conceit o' oorsels."  
Mr. Balfour added quickly, "And that, sir, is the only prayer that is always answered."

## DEPTH OF OCEAN CABLES.

### Interesting Information Regarding Submarine Territory.

There seems to be no logical reason why cables cannot be laid across any section of the oceans of the world, no matter how great the depth. Some portions of the Atlantic cables are over three miles below the surface, and this is not necessarily the extreme depth, for the cable may, and probably does, pass from the top of one submarine hill to another without dropping materially into the deep valleys between. The greatest known depth of the sea is 40,236 feet, or seven and three-fifths miles, found in the South Atlantic about midway between the island of Tristan d'Acunha and the mouth of the Rio de la Plata.

Soundings have been made to depths of 27,480 feet in the North Atlantic south of Newfoundland, and about 34,000 feet, or nearly six and a half miles, is reported south of the Bermudas. Even such enormous depths as these need not hinder cable laying so far as the theory is concerned, but in practice, for reasons of economy and otherwise, it is found best to take advantage of favoring conditions in the ocean's bed. To illustrate, all of the cables between the United States and Europe run up along our coast until they reach the Newfoundland before starting across to their destinations in England and France. The reason for this is found in the range of submarine lands, forming an ideal cable bed which lies between the three nations.

In past years immense portions of this submerged territory have been plotted and mapped by various governmental and private expeditions and this knowledge is constantly being added to. It becomes particularly valuable in economic cable-laying. Except in extreme cases the electric conductor is not dropped overboard at hazard. On the contrary the submarine mountains, valleys and plains on which it is to take its sinuous course are accurately selected beforehand as their general configuration, soil covering (if any) and other peculiarities properly taken into consideration. Special varieties of cable are manufactured to meet certain conditions known to exist where they are to go. The men in all trades, the cable layers must adhere closely to the specifications given them in starting in order to perform the right kind of work.

The steamship, therefore, while going ahead and paying out the cable over the stern pulley, is under the guidance of skilled hands, following a certain path, which has been plotted out for her by sages on the land as being the best adapted for comfort and ease of the electrical conductor she is depositing.—Lippincott Magazine.

## PROF. C. W. ELIOT. Educator Who Is Criticised for Assault on Labor Unions.

Prof. Charles William Eliot, president of Harvard University, who made the unwarranted assault upon labor, which recently astonished newspaper readers, is one of the most noted American educators.

He was born in Boston in 1834, the son of Samuel Eliot, statesman. Graduating from Harvard in 1856, he was appointed tutor in mathematics and studied chemistry with Prof. Josiah P. Cooke. He perfected his education in France, Germany and England and upon return became professor of analytical chemistry in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

In 1869 Professor Eliot was made president of Harvard and has filled that office in the intervening thirty-two years. He has introduced new methods, making the university resemble the great European schools of learning. It has trebled in wealth during his presidency. Professor Eliot is a man of profound learning, but it is evident that there are some things he has not studied conscientiously and fairly.—Utica Globe.

## "A Bird" of an Opportunity.

The great Beecher said that "opportunity is a bird which flies but once to the window of your chamber. Lure you with its sweet song. If you fail to stretch out your hand to take it, it flies away and returns no more forever." When the eloquent Brooklyn preacher said this he did not have advertising in mind. Here the bird opportunity comes every day, and who is the man who takes it and cherishes it.—Printer's Ink.

## Varieties of Love.

Nannette-Jacques says he will love me always.  
Babbette—I should think one would be enough.—Gentleman's Magazine.  
No fault can be found with a man sense of duty if he finds time to do things he doesn't want to do.