

LINCOLN COUNTY LEADER

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

TOLEDO.....OREGON

Football, for lack of a better name to describe it, is still designated as a sport.

Doctors will doubtless agree with that London scientist who asserts that disease is a blessing.

Too many men allow their religion to hang in the closet through the week with their Sunday clothes.

Some of the watchdogs of our national banking system seem to have lost the faculty of finding and following the scent.

Just to show what heroes they are, some of the life insurance experts announce that they carry policies in their own companies.

It is expected, meanwhile, that the forests will remain in their place until the courts have decided whether or not they are to be preserved.

In Japan Admiral Togo is fondly referred to as a lobster. The admiral is a small man physically and can't fight much except when he is on his ship.

It is asserted, on the other hand, that big hats for women are not going out of fashion. The report that they were, doubtless, was started by some designing masculine person.

"Three saved by chewing gum" is the head over a news item. It seems that the three used chewing gum to plug a hole in their canoe. Then they were saved by not chewing it, after all.

Russia's bad way never could be more forcefully illustrated than by the lamentable fact that the stroke of one man's pen could open the dungeons where political prisoners have been left for years to wither and die.

Professor Wiley proposes to test the effects of cold storage food on the human system. It is to be hoped that he will try the cold storage egg himself, so that he may speak from personal experience instead of merely observing its effect on some hired man.

About half a century ago England took notice of one fleet only, the French. Now things have changed. Japan has revealed her naval power; Italy has a fairly good navy; Wilhelm II. rules over Germany and has announced that the country's future welfare must be sought for on the seas; the United States wish to have no rivals on the ocean and Russia is beginning to rebuild her fleet.

This continent is no longer the scene of the most striking innovations; America is an old story. Africa is the new world. The French are stretching a telegraph wire from the Mediterranean across the Sahara to Timbuktu. The wire has already reached the Tuat oases. It will pass thence to the Ahaggar Mountains, where live the Tuareg bandits, and so into a country which a few years ago was extremely dangerous to an avowed Christian.

No matter how profound and learned a lawyer may be, he seems to be incapable of drawing his own will so that it will not be set aside. This was the fate of Samuel J. Tilden's will, and now we are informed that the will of Chief Justice Edward M. Paxton of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, bequeathing \$3,000,000 for the establishment of a farm school for boys, is void for such an obvious defect as the absence of subscribing witnesses. Sometimes it looks as if people who know how to make money never know anything else.

There are men who have never been detected in wrong-doing whose performances are nevertheless so hostile to the public welfare or so acceptable to self-seekers that their honesty is impugned and their patriotism discounted. Any prosecuting officer will testify that there is nothing in the whole catalogue of crimes so difficult to trace as political corruption, nothing so difficult to fix as bribery. The public should not wait for proofs. The vote should not wait for evidence. It is not only essential that public men have their dishonesty unproved, but that they be men of such proved honesty and absolute integrity that no breath of suspicion has ever tainted their reputations.

A friend of the editor asks this question: "Why do Americans as a rule go after the dollar harder than Europeans?" Plainly, because dollars will buy more in this country than in Europe. Dollars will buy some things there, but here they will buy everything that is worth buying. In Europe it makes no difference how much money a man has, nor how decent his character, neither he nor his family can amount to anything in particular.

He must be born to the manner. Else the door of opportunity is closed. In this country, if he is the right sort of a man, he can buy freedom from fear and worry, recognition, independence. He can aspire to be and become all that any other American can aspire to become. And that is why our critics across the waters fail to understand us. Years ago they called us a nation of shopkeepers. They can see us only as dollar chasers. But the fact is we want money because of the things it will buy. We do not hoard it. We are royal spenders. Of course there are some among us who believe that money will buy anything—contentment, happiness, or even character. They learn differently. But surely it is not altogether an unworthy motive that we should desire money that we may minister to the wellbeing of those whom we are fond of. It is not a sordid desire, this one of wanting money to educate our children and give them a chance in life better than our chance. And that is why Fritz and Patrick and Nels and Antonio and Moses, when they come to us over sea, join with us in the dollar chase. It is only when we begin to long for dollars we cannot use that we become money mad. The American wants dollars for what they will buy and he buys what he wants.

There is close relation between belief and reasoning, but there could be no greater error than to suppose that reasoning is the only thing that can produce beliefs and that all of our beliefs are the result of reasoning. Most people would feel insulted if told that they believe anything whatever without reason, and yet the truth is that of all the beliefs that exist in any human mind not one in a thousand has been produced by reasoning and not one in a million by investigation, reflection and reasoning. The greater part of our most cherished convictions are inserted in us ready made, just as a cartridge is inserted in a gun or a box put into a wagon. This is easily proved by asking people why they believe certain things. In most cases it will be surprising to see how they are embarrassed by the question and what trifling and inconsequential replies they make. Sometimes they become impatient and indignant and intimate that what they believe is self-evident, or they say: "Any fool knows that." They drop the subject as soon as they can, but not until they have made it evident that they believe without reason and without ever attempting to reason. How, then, do we come to believe certain things? Evidently by mere imitation or by a sort of hypnotic suggestion. In childhood and youth we believe everything we hear. What ever is constantly said in our homes or by our associates we install among our settled convictions and retain them long after we have forgotten when, where and from whom we first heard them. We are as passive in receiving these impressions as a colt is in getting used to harness. We would naturally suppose that convictions that were acquired so easily would be just as easily upset and abandoned, but it is just the reverse. The beliefs which we have acquired we know not how and which we are at a loss to defend are exactly those that are most inviolable. We would at least expect them to melt away before strong argument, but argument has no effect on them. Argument will often overthrow and reverse beliefs which were acquired by argument, but these beliefs which are foisted upon us hypnotically do not yield to reasoning. These traditional beliefs cannot be said to be an evil. The fact is our very life is founded on them and governed by them and we could not live without them. Life is too short for everything to be reasoned out. We must be set up in business with an immense stock of ready-made convictions or else we would be more helpless than the brute creation. They are valuable also for the very reason that they cannot be overthrown, for without this quality there would be absolutely no stability in human character. On the other hand, it is obviously absurd to reason that certain opinions and beliefs are well founded because they are widespread and of great antiquity. A belief may be perpetuated from generation to generation in an ever-widening circle for thousands of years and even become universal without ever having a particle of fact or logic for its basis. That we can never entirely free ourselves from involuntary beliefs is certain, and that we would perish if we were deprived of them is certain also, and yet our safety depends on keeping them in check by reasoning and investigation. We must be continually sloughing off our groundless beliefs or we shall be completely swamped by them. This is not an attractive picture of human nature, but it is a faithful likeness.

Papa's Viewpoint.
Her Father—What are your prospects, sir?
The Sutor (modestly)—I am fifth vice president of the Brazen Assurance Society.
Her Father—Well, you may come and see me again, if the jury acquits you!—Puck.

Social Problems.
Lumber Yard Lem—I hain't seen Weary Willie around lately.
Seven-League Saunders—No; he's disguised himself as a college professor an' livin' in one o' dem. He's goin' to write a magazine article on 'Our lives an' habits.'—Puck.



Paper Shavings for Beds.
In several places in Prussia, experiments are being made with a somewhat novel material for soldiers' beds, namely, shavings of paper about three centimetres broad and several hundred metres long. These are stuffed into bags on which the soldiers lie. They are said to be more comfortable than straw and more springy. Straw beds, moreover, must be changed every six months. These new beds of paper shavings need changing only once in two or three years.

Farming by Night.
In order to demonstrate that, if necessary, agricultural operations can be carried out day and night continuously with gasoline motor, an interesting trial was recently carried out in England on a farm near Biggleswade. A field was illuminated by acetylene gas, and two 6-foot mowers were attached to an Ivel gasoline tractor. Under these conditions fifteen acres were cut in the short time of 3 hours 35 minutes.

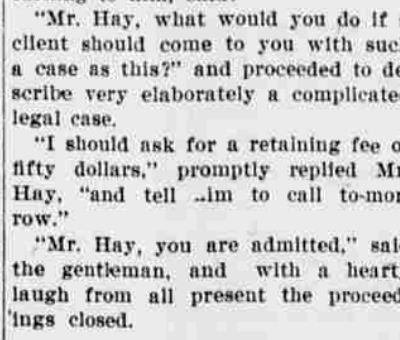
New Active Volcano in Nevada.
A volcano throwing off molten lava has been discovered in Nevada. The volcano is in Rye Patch, Humboldt County. Although that section has been traversed for years the crater has just been found. The men were in search of cattle when they came on the stream of lava, and, tracing it to its source, found the volcano.

One of the largest and most famous trees in England is the Cowthorpe oak, thus named from the town wherein it stands. It is gradually decaying and disappearing, although it still puts forth green leaves every year. Like other giant trees in a state of decay, its trunk seems to be sinking into the ground. About 200 years ago it was 78 feet in girth at the ground level, and 80 feet high. Now it is but little more than 54 feet in girth at the ground, and only 37 feet high.

China is so well suited by natural conditions for the production of silk that even the most antiquated and unscientific methods cannot deprive her of the first rank in that industry. In Japan everything connected with the silk business is scientifically regulated. No silkworm is allowed to hatch unless the egg has passed a scientific inspection. The mulberry trees are cultivated on scientific principles. Similar methods are pursued in other countries where silk is produced. But in China these things are almost entirely disregarded, and yet China keeps near the head in production. Her undeveloped resources in this industry are so enormous that Mr. Anderson, our consul at Amoy, predicts that when China adopts modern methods she will give a new turn to the silk business of the world.

Qualified to Practice.
When the late Secretary Hay was crossing the Atlantic in 1865 on his way to Paris to serve as secretary of legation he told the following anecdote to one of his fellow travelers. On applying for admission to the bar of Illinois he was summoned to appear before a committee of prominent Chicago lawyers to be examined as to his qualifications.
He went to the place appointed and found the committee assembled; but for a long time they took no notice of the young candidate, but continued talking vigorously together on various subjects. At last one of the lawyers, turning to him, said:
"Mr. Hay, what would you do if a client should come to you with such a case as this?" and proceeded to describe very elaborately a complicated legal case.
"I should ask for a retaining fee of fifty dollars," promptly replied Mr. Hay, "and tell him to call to-morrow."
"Mr. Hay, you are admitted," said the gentleman, and with a hearty laugh from all present the proceedings closed.

Very Forgetful.
Clergyman—I'd like to pay a fitting tribute to your husband's memory.
Widow—He didn't have any memory; he couldn't remember to mail a letter.



MEN VS. MODELS.
By Rev. Henry F. Cope.
But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree; and he requested for himself that he might die.—1. Kings xix., 4.
One thing about all the Old Testament heroes endears them to the average man; they were so average themselves; they had enough leaven of earth to make us feel they belong to us. Here is this old giant, rock like prophet Elijah, throwing himself down under a bush, sulking in a pet like a child. He who stood before kings and armies flees from a scolding woman. No matter how much he was to blame we are glad he did it; it is just what we would have done.
Only a nature capable of great heights can be thrown into such depths of despondency. There are no waves on puddles. The shallow nature is always calm. The great waves rise where there are great depths. A smaller nature than Elijah's would have maintained its dignity.
Too many superficial thinkers look for all saints to be on precisely the



TRUE CAUSE OF THANKSGIVING.
By Rev. Percy Trafford Olton.
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits. Psalms ciii., 2.
One of the frequent causes of our failure to have the thankful spirit is forgetfulness of past benefits. Concerning the past the majority of people try either to forget it altogether or they try to live in it altogether. Both are equally wrong. It is not intended that we should live only to forget, nor is it meant that we should live only to remember.

The past is a book in which we record the experiences of our journey and to which we can refer for guidance and comfort as we press on through the unknown future. And when the day's travel happens to be through a barren and cheerless country, we should be able to turn to those pages which record days of great blessing when we were passing through a land flowing with milk and honey.
But we are so apt to forget the benefits of the past. When we come to the end of a day's journey and sit down to enter its experience how readily do we record the disagreeable things—the disappointments, the vexations, the crosses that have been met with. Somebody has passed us traveling in ease and luxury while we tramped on foot; somebody has spoken an unkind word or has done us an injury; somebody has gone by that day with head erect and smiling face, while we staggered under the burden of a heavy cross, with the pain of a great sorrow cutting like a knife into our soul, and we pour out the bitterness of our life on the pages of our book of memory.
All that has not been as we would like is carefully entered, and as we sit there and turn over the pages of the book we find entries similar to the one we have just made—records of trials and disappointments and hardships—and reading them it seems as if there was no other soul in the wide world whose lot could be more cheerless and desolate than ours.
We have no song of praise, for there is no melody in our hearts; we cannot say "Bless the Lord, O my soul," for we feel that for us there is no special reason for thanksgiving. Why is it thus? It is because we have forgotten to make notes of the benefits.
Oh, the patience and long suffering of God! Truly, He can say of us as He said concerning the children of Israel: "How long will this people provoke Me, and how long will it be ere they believe Me for all the signs which I have showed unto them?"
He has led us step by step through the wilderness; He has provided for our every need, and yet we are constantly doubting His wisdom and goodness; we will not call to remembrance His unflinching providence.
Let us look back and see how great and manifold have been the blessings. There is no child of God who has not abundant reason to thank God for past benefits. If we will but look over the past and count up some of the innumerable blessings a great wave of praise and thanksgiving will sweep over our souls, and out of overflowing hearts there will burst forth the song of the psalmist of old: "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits."

same pattern; they expect all heaven's heroes to be as much alike as two church angels. They have standards of the ideal religious man by which they measure all men. Being created by precisionists their ideals are of the emasculated, milksop type, possessed only of negative virtues, the product of a process that robs a man of all his individuality and leaves him with as much stamina and character as a pint of boiled water.
The Creator never builds with bricks, nor ever makes two pieces of rock precisely alike. Uniformity is a human foible. True religion is not a quarry where the rough rocks are hewn to one size and shape, still less is it a brickyard where men are made pliable as clay before being baked into rectangular prisms. The ideal religious man does not lose his personality, temper, or passions; the things that mark and distinguish him are not taken out; they are brought into holier service. They are not treated as faults to be eradicated, but as forces to be developed and ennobled.
If some men had had the making of Elijah they would have snipped and carried him down until he was as innocent of individuality as a newly fledged theological student. They would have trimmed his whiskers and put a white tie on him. They would have taught him to subdue his voice and to suppress his vigorous action. Instead of running before the king's chariot he would have learned to walk softly, like an old family cat. And, by that time, Elijah would have learned better than to throw himself down under a tree in anger. To do so would muss his clothes. Instead, he would be able to put his hands together, roll his eyes upward, and quote poems on resignation.
The mechanical gaugers of religious character are inexplicably shocked to find a man who persists in maintaining any of the rugged excrescences of his old nature. They cannot understand the cowboy who wants to whoop when he feels religious, nor the miner who can go to meeting in flannel shirt, nor the doctor who is too busy relieving pain to go to church, nor any of the men who express their religion so thoroughly in doing good that they have no inclination to spend one day in expressing it by feeling good.

Piety is not a process of robbing men of personality; it is a power that takes and develops a man according to what he naturally is. It does not conventionalize; it converts; it simply swings all the great forces of the life into new directions. The forces persist. Whatever was strongest for evil in the man will now be strongest for good. So that no two live men are alike, even religiously.
Religion does not make models; it makes men. No model ever did anything toward making this world. There are no model men in the Bible; they are all rugged individuals, each going his own way. The greatest of them all was far, indeed, from a model in the eyes of the standardizers of his day. Let a man be himself and he is most likely to please his God; let him with all his peculiar powers seek to serve his God and help his fellows. If he is an Elijah let him not try to be a pretty parlor picture. Better be a faulty man than a flawless model.

SHORT METER SERMONS.
Care calls to prayer.
Love and laws rule the world.
Many of our crosses come from our crooked ways.
Some men think that grace grows by grumbling.
Most doubts would die if we did not dodge them.
Happiness rests on thoughts more than on things.
Only those who love the world can live above it.
The finicky man always thinks he alone is faithful.
Giving with grunting may be worse than withholding.
Holiness without heart is but a hindrance to humanity.
The man who jumps at conclusions seldom lands on facts.
A man can lie with his tongue while his tongue tells the truth.
The robe of righteousness is not the same as the cloth of the clergy.
Some churches that claim to be working for men are only working men.
Never put off to to-morrow the meanness you might as well give up to-day.
Nothing hurts the feelings of the stuffed martyr worse than letting him alone.
Too many sermons are attempts to feed the people on cook books instead of on bread.

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