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ashland Tidings.

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Now they charge! hark to their cheering, Neither death nor danger fearing, From the foe, his banners tearing; Columbia's sons have gained the day.

When returned from deeds of daring,

Song.

BY LAUGHIN' HAU'EY.

Thoughts of death and danger scorning,

"Tis the rigual for the fight.

So diers brave are on the march.

Columbia's sons are in the van .

In the bright and beantions morning?

See ye not the banners dancing;

See je not the payonets glancing;

See, on high, the "Eng'e" soaring

Where the clouds of war are low'ring.

And the murd'rous cannons rouring?

See ye not the war-steeds prancing ?

Hear ye not the trumpets' warning,

Proudly each his laurels wearing, And the "Stars and Stripes" upbearing, They again the same can do. Comrades brave they're done regreting;

Scenes of death and war forgetting, In the thoughts that love's begetting-Thoughts of home and sweethearts dear.

PIONEER JUSTICE IN OREGON.

[WILLIAM M. TURNER IN OVERLAND MONTHLY. Oregon, twenty years ago, was yet in territorial swaddling-clothes. Only a short time had elapsed since the fame of her beautiful valleys and noble streams, already blended in our nation. al poetry had reached the over-crowded settlements at the East. Astor had established a small trading colony, which yet bears his name, at the mouth of the great river whose solitary grandeur had awakened poetic inspiration. Douglass, the naturalist, had pushed alone far among the majestic mountains that crown the western slope. Fremont had touched it among the southern lakes, and Lewis and Clarke had stood and gazed in silent wonder over its almost endless plains to the eastward. When the question of boundary between Oregon and British North America assum ed a public prominence, it attracted attention to our extreme Western possessions; but there was another influence greatly instrumental in the settlement

of the new territory and in molding the character of its population. Round the camp fires of the trappers and mountain men, from the Yellowstone to the Arkansas, the enchantments of the reputed fairy-land beyond the Rocky Mountains were a constant theme, and the few who had courageously penetrated to it, drank from its crystal streams, and beheld its wondrous beauty, were regarded with a sort of envious admiration. Passing from mouth to mouth, and losing nothing. the wonderful stories of Oregon and its beauty and fertility were occasionally related in the settlements along the Mississippi and its tributaries, creating feverish and unsettled longing. In 1850, the Government, wisely perceiving the importance of inducing emigration to our north-western territory, offered a princely share of the public domain to all bona fide settlers in Oregon. The offer was tempting. Along the frontier line of the Mississippi States was echoed "land for the land. Sims, taking the partnership funds,

ra, were dotted with moving caravans pressing to the promised land. Therefore-drawn mainly from the border States and territory, and comprised largely of men whom civilization, with irksome restraints and apparent encroschments on the liberty of the citizen, had pushed to the verge of the wilderness-it is not surprising that the The subscriber is again in charge population of the young territory should be not only of a marked American character, but of a peculiar type of Americanism. These pioneers were brave people, who accepted the liberal offer of the Government and its consequent trial and hardship with all the plack which characterized the frontiersman. They had been in the ad vanced guard of progress, they had cleared the way for the settlement and development of the Mississippi Valley. and were still willing to cleave new homes at the very outposts of our domain. While they brought with them their marked Western prejudices and their half-nomadic habits, they brought also their sturdy independence, and that keen sense of right and wrong inseparable from strong courageous natures, that left its sterling impress up-

on every public act and record in Ore-

gon's early history. Society in the

young territory was by no means rude

sence of many things with which older should have stood by him in his mis- he modestly insist that he was ignorant communities were cursed and hamper- fortunes. In his distress, he sought of law and unwilling to bear so grave a ed. Life and property were compara- the services of a neighboring miner responsibility. The popular current tively safe. Wherever the territorial named Prim, who, report said, was a was too strong; a wild yell of acclamalaw extended, it was simple and effec- lawyer, but who, for the sake of avoid- tion proclaimed him Judge tive in its operation. Where it did ing annoyance in petty trials where the of Appeal, investing him, in not, through lack of judicial organiza- fees were not commensurate with the limited sphere, with a power as sution, justice was reached by short cuts, lawyer's services, had kept his true preme as ever clothed czar or sultan. unobstructed by the complex machin- calling a secret. Sprenger found the The new justice did not wait for a ery of modern law, unclouded by the disciple of Blackstone in a tunnel, vig- formal certificate of election, but properplexing and uncertain verbiage of orously swinging his pick among the ceeded with the organization of his legal lexicons. In such localities, jus- muddy and dripping bowlders, looking court in a manner that showed him to tice was administered by alcaldes elect. more like a Cornish miner than an ex- be a man of no ordinary bu siness capaced by the people. Their jurisdiction pounder of legal perplexities. Prim ity. A clerk and sheriff we re at once was ample, their decisions were final, was disposed to disavow any knowl- appointed, a record opened on which and the mandates of their courts were edge of law for the sake of saving him. | was spread the extraordinary proceedgenerally respected; but their acts self the trouble of a case, where, un- ings of the hour, and when the court were vigilably scrutinized by those der the circumstances, defeat was cer- was in working order, a mandamus iswho invested them with official digni- tain; but his humanity overcame his sued commanding Alcalde Bogers to ty. Consequently, the administration selfishness, and, moved by the recital of appear with the records of his court. of this backwoods magistracy, always Sprenger's grievances, he threw down The writ was disobeyed, the alcalde resubject to the powerful test of public opinion, was usually honest and just. Occasionally, however, bad men stole into office, and under their extensive powers, perpetrated wrongs that, in the absence of any court of appeal, were hardly redressible. Under such circumstances, an episode occurred during the early history of the territory. that illustrates this simple judicial system, and recalls vividly the stories of the just Caliph of Bagdad, over which

childhood has lingered with so much

delight and admiration. no county organizations south of the Calapooia Mountains, a range stretching from the Cascades to the Pacific, and dividing western Oregon nearly midway between the Columbia and the California boundary; and for nearly a year later, no courts were held in that ilcaldes. In the summer of 1852, a rich and extensive discovery of gold on Jackson Creek, within a half mile of the present site of Jacksonville, had brought a large number of miners to that locality, both from other portions of the territory and from California. At this time, justice was dispensed within the new district by an individ ual named Rogers, who had been elected prior to the gold discovery. Rogers was known as a man of stubborn, willful nature, and not credited either with discernment or honesty; but, hitherto, his decisions, involving no considerable amounts of property and not outrageously unjust, had passed unquestioned by the people. When, in the fall of 1852, the mining camp was at the full tide of prosperity, a com plication arose between two mining partners, involving the right to a mining claim and the settlement of a partnership, the adjudication of which was finally taken in hand by the people, indge of his undeserved honors.

and resulted in stripping a dishonest Two miners, named respectively Sprenger and Sims, owned and worked in partnership a valuable mining claim on Jackson Creek, and, late in the fall, less," and soon the plains, heretofore started for Portland to purchase a supwork in the claim. During his partner's absence. Sprenger met with a serious accident, which confined him to his cabin, crippled and helpless. There was "lack of woman's nursing" in the wild mining regions, but there was no lack of kindly, generous sympathy for the unfortunate among the rough miners, and Sprenger was nursed and cared for with all the proverbial humanity of this class of people. When Sims returned, finding his partner likely to be a burden on him for the coming winter, he at once ejected him from the cabin, and took possession of the claim. Sprenger appealed to Alcalde Rogers for restitution, but appealed in vain. His suit was conducted with considerable skill by a fellow miner named Kinney. Every point of law, both territorial and local, was on bis side; every principle of equity in his favor; but the pleadings of his ad vocate fell on the ears of a corrupt and unfeeling judge, whose decree stripped him of every dollar of his wordly possessions. His counsel, suspecting the credibility of some of Sims' witnesses, and satisfied that the trial was as un

or unsettled. Inferior, perhaps, in He was a cripple, dependent on public to for the position of Chief Justice. In

fair as the decision was unjust, de-

manded a new one, which was refused

some of the refinements of the older charity, his means entirely exhausted- vain did Mr. Hayden protest and decommunities, it was superior in the ab- cheated and robbed by the man who cline the proffered honor; in vain did his pick and espoused the injured man's cause as zealously as if expecting a generous fee. Kinney, the former counsel of Sprenger, was sought, and a consultation entered upon. Every known point of the law bearing upon the case, was discussed. Every fam'liar maneuvre or pretext, likely to assist in obtaining a new trial, was proposed, and the advocates waxed more earnest upon each examination of the subject. All, however, to no purpose. The known obduracy of the alcalde and his suspected collusion with Sims, rose ever-Prior to January, 1852, there were lastingly before them, presenting an impassable barrier between them and justice. A protracted and exhaustive view of the case only left the attorneys less ful men-subpæass issued for witnesshopeful than ever-when Prim, in a

had a Court of Appeal." "Great God, sir!" exclaimed Kinney, | massaming miner, appeared with an region, other than those of the local springing to his feet in a state of intense excitement. "Why did we not think of that before? We will have a Court of Appeal, sir!"

Prim did not understand him, thinking he referred to a probable election and the organization of the regular judiciary, and suggested, gravely, that their client would probably starve, and reach the Court of Death, before they would get it before any earthly tribu-

increasing warmth, "I say we will have Court of Appeal within twenty-four hours. Who made the d -d scoundrel alcalde? We, the people, sir! and if we have the power to create one court, we can make another high enough | circumstances surrounding, it overto try and hang the one below it, if

A new light dawned upon Prim. Kinney was right. His strong good sense, by going back to first principles and invoking the power of the people to correct an abuse which was the result of their own short-sightedness, had solved a problem that to the lawyer was full of stubborn impossibilities. A Court of Appeal was resolved on. Sprenger was immediately dispatched to summon the "boys" to a miners' and imperious verbiage, but with a writ that found a soft spot in every rough breast among the mining population; a writ that the miners never resisted—an appeal to their sympathy and sense of justice. Never was imperial ukase more potent. Never did the fiery cross on highland height rouse the clans more effectually than this simple appeal did the mining population in the early days; and the crippled envoy was as successful as his ad vocates could wish. The "boys" threw down their tools, and, deserting their claims, flocked to the town nearly a thousand strong, and in a perfect ferment of indignation. A committee waited on the alcade to demand a re hearing for Sprenger; but he declined to open his court for the purpose of re versing his own judgment. Kinney at once sprang upon a stump, called the meeting to order, and suggested the organization of a Court of Appeal, and its investment with full power to review the proceedings of the court below. The proposition struck the popular chord, and the affirmative response that swelled up from the crowd, which was now in ill mood for trifling, almost drowned the speaker's voice. A gentleman named Hayden, a native of Connecticut, known for his uprightness Poor Sprenger was almost in despair. and probity, was unanimously pointed

fusing to recognize the appellate powers of the new court. An unexpected complication having thus arisen, the process was about to be enforced by the excited people, when Justice Hayden, maintaining the dignity of his court amid the greatest uproar, solved the difficulty by ordering the parties in equity to appear before him for a new trial. Sims dared not disobey, seeing that the dissolution of the high court would be the signal for popular violence, and securing the services of Orange Jacobs, a young attorney from Michigan, promptly responded, and the trial at once went on. A venire was issued for a jury-twelve good and lawes, and the case formally opened. half solitoquy, remarked: "If we only Jacobs, of whom little was known, except that he was recognized as a quiet, able and apparently exhaustive argument, protesting against and denying the extraordinary jurisdiction assumed by the court as contrary to the organic law of the territory, and therefore against public policy and revolution-

ary; and moved for the case be dismiss ed for want of jurisdiction. He pleaded as one wedded to his profession as an abstract science, jealous of the law's infringement for its own sake; but he appealed to a judge who sat for the dis-"No, sir !" continued Kinney, with dispensation of justice more than for the vindication of law, and, as might have been expected, his motion was overrlued. Prim and Kenny managed the case with the skill of veteran attorneys, and in knowledge of the peculiar matched their opponent; who deftly and courageously met every argument and sifted every witness with all the adroitness of a thorough legal expert. During a stubborn argumen t on a law point presented by Jacobs, he became so earnest as to venture to bet a small sum that it was good law and supported by ample authority. Kinney sprang to his feet triumphantly; he knew that the point was law, but he knew his man and understood the composition of the jury. Drawing his buckskin with an air of the most supreme confidence, he flung three of the old fashioned fiftymeeting. He was not armed with any dollar slugs upon the table, and wordy legal process, with its angular demanded the amount of his opponents bet. It was a bluff against knowledge, and bluff won. Jacobs was a recent immigrant, without "color" in his wallet, and responded not; there was an audible smile on the faces of the jury. and the court, with becoming gravity, pronounced the point "not well taken. Jacobs fought over every inch of ground and opposed every effort of Sprenger's joint counsel with a moral heroism, that in the face of an angry and excited growd of spectators, was almost sublime; but he was at a sad disadvantage. and talking to a court and jury who did not care a fig for law when conflicting with their ideas of right and The witnesses examined and the is-

sue made, Kinney presented the case to the jury. He dwelt on the right of every citizen to the peaceful possession of his property, and on the duty of every man owed to society in the protection of his neighbors' rights; but it was when he referred to the relations existing between the two men that crude buman nature triumphed over legal science and skill. Drawing a distinction between partnerships in civilized communities and those in the wild mining region, where the social amenities of life were uncommon. he showed the former to be mere commercial and financial connections among men, while the latterwere ties of brotherhood, sauctioned and prescribed by custom, and imposing obligations than which there were none stronger. He told the jury that a man's partner was required to be his friend, to sustain him in evil and in good repute, to share with

him in health, to nurse him in sickness, (Concluded on fourth page.)