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AN OREGON HERO

In all times and in all climes, from centuries before the Christian era to the present, and from the ancient Greece to Fair California, the tensest string in the gamut of human emotions has been the one attuned to vibrate to the deeds of a hero, says the San Franeisco Call. In the hurry and scurry of life it may sometimes seem as though selfishness were the dominant and that self-sacrifice were dead in the world that the feelings that the Greeks had in venerating their heroes, even to the point of regarding them as demi-gods. is old-fashioned and vanished from the world. But the age of heroes has not passed away, and at times we are reminded of that fact by the brave deed must be presented anew to such voters of some hero still among us.

There is no man or woman who will not feel the blood pulse quicker upon reading of the death of the young athlete, Summer Smith, near Portland, Ore., on last Tuesday afternoon. The passengers of the steamer America were suddenly starfled by the shout from one of their number that "there's a young girl fallen overboard and I can't swim." Quick came the answer from young Smith, "I can." and forthwith he leaped into the Willamette river, where Oza Brown, a 12-year-old girl, was struggling for her life. Smith held the girl aloft until she was saved, but before the rescuers could reach him he was caught by the treacherous cramp and gave his life in sacrifice to duty.

The call to him was tragic and sudvast multitude of voters did not go to den, but gallantly he met it, counting the polls at all in 1900, the total popular not the cost, and was baptized a hero in the murky waters of the Willamette,

They quickly turn their hand to anything that promises to yield them a living.

and frantic scramble among intending

immigrants for ship passage as a re-

If there is to be a further restriction

of immigration it ought to be based on

some intelligent and impartial princi-

ple, one that will deal fairly with immi-

grants from all nations. The Adams

till seems to be unerely an arbitrary,

off-hand way of dealing with the sub-

ject, with the likelihood that it would

make matters worse than they are.

First Voters.

An important factor that will have to

be reckoned with in the coming presi-

dential campaign is the great army of

"first voters" that will take part in the

contest. Ten years ago nearly all of

these coming voters-at least, those

who ure American-born-were mere striplings, and consequently the cam-

palgn issues of 1892 or even those of

1896 will seem to them like ancient his-

tory. So far as these issues may play

a part in the pending contest, they

possible to predict with assurance

whatever what the effect may be on the

What the addition to the total num-

ber of voters in the country is likely to

be this year is very hard to conjecture.

for the reason that between 1896 and

1900, so' far as the election returns

show, there was practically no gain in

the number of electors. From 1876 to

1880 there was a gain of 800,000; from

1830 to 1884, a gain of 1,000,000; from

1884 to 1888, a gain of 1,300,000; from

1888 to 1892, a gain of 500,000 and from

1892 to 1896, a gain of 1,900,000. Be-

tween 1876 and 1896 the popular vote

for presidential electors increased 65

per cent or from 8,400,000 to 13,900,000.

Apparently owing to the fact that a

minds of this young electorate.

sult.

is all right to give notices of social care of themselves very soon thereafter. meetings and public gatherings of all sorts, and most papers give more value in free announcements and writeups Instad of helping to "assimilate" for than the wealthiest citizen give to immigrants, the passage of the Adams worthy objects in a lifetime.

industrions and thrifty enough to take fices for it. Of course the newspaper

bill would be likely to have the opposite The editor can do that-glad to get the effect. If intending immigrants of namatter to "fill up," But when it comes tions like Russia, Italy, and Austriato work that is to be paid for-why, Hungary knew that a law of this kind he shouldn't be bothered with that. was in force they would make haste to There is such a thing as appreciating be included in the limited \$9,000 and, as the advantages of a good newspaper. a consequence, many of them would and the way to manifest it is when come here before they were financially you have a job of printing, give it to prepared to do so. They would arrive your newspaper man. There is such a with thinner purses than they already thing as reciprocity, he helps you and do, relying upon chance to help them, you help him. Remember this when out. It would be a case of "first come you have a job of printing. first served," with an indiscriminate

If congress should grant all the special appropriations demanded for various purposes .t this session, the government would absolutely be swamped. It would cost more than \$200,000,000 to meet the demands along a few lines only. Some of these are meritorious. others not so much so, and still othera little short of raids, or attempted grabs. Among the meritorious ones are those in the interest of farmers, such as the good roads bill. The expositions, like the daughter of the horse leech, are still begging for more, when as a matter of fact, they already have more then they are entitled to. Their requests are for "loans" but everybody knows that the money might as well be called an outright gift as not a cent of it will ever be paid back. .

Consumptives are to be barred from first class Pullman cars on the Santa Fe rallway, and hospital cars on through trains will be provided for them, says a Kansas City dispatch. These cars will be especially equipped and, as these questions will be mingled and none but sick persons will be alwith questions of a later date, it is im- lowed to ride on them. This innovation will be put into effect between Chicago and Kansas Cify to Colorado, New Mexico and California points, over practically the entire system. The hospital cars probably will be put on at the opening of the summer tourist business this season.

> Forty years ago the negroes of the south did not own a square foot of ground nor a roof to cover them. Now there are 130,000 farms owned by necross, valued at \$350,000,000; 150,000 homes, outside the farm township, valued at \$265,000,000 and personal property valued at \$165,000,000. So, starting from nothing, here is an accumulation of nearly \$00,000,000. When the work began, not 1 per cent of the negro adults of the south could read or write. Today 40 per cent can do so.

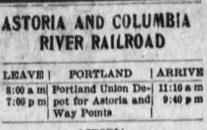


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DRNING ASTORIAN, TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 1904.

None among us can be more noble or make a greater sacrifice than that made by one who in the first flush of athletic manhood freely dies that a helpless girl may live. The name that the steamer bore, America, to uphold which so many heroes have nobly died. will be bonored by none more worthy than this young Oregordan, and though from the pitiless tide, swellen by spring freshets, Sumner Smith's body may never be recovered, all will pause in honest admiration at the thought that he gave up his life that another might Ilve.

Restricting Immigration.

On the ground that the scheme would give the American people a better opportunity to "assimilate" foreign immigrants, Representative Adams has introduced a bill at Washington, provideing that not more than \$0,000 aliens from any single nation shall be admitted to the United States in any one year, says the New York Commercial. How he happened to hit on 80,000 as the proper limit does not appear. Why \$0,000 instead of 60,000 or 100,000?

It is noticeable that if such a law had been in effect last year it would have shut out 150,000 immigrants from Italy. 126,000 from Austria-Hungary and 56,-600 from Russia, or about 332,000 out of a total of 860,000. Immigrants from other nations would not have been affected. Had such a law been in operation still earlier, it would probably have resulted in excluding from our term of seven years. Only one French shores thousands of German immigrants and thousands of immigrants from Great Britain-English, Irish Scotch and Welsh-and should the Adams bill be passed it might readily disturbed was more influential to mainhave this effect in the future. Only last year nearly 70,000 immigrants landed here from Great Britain.

There has never been any great trouble about the "assimilation" of immigrants in this country provided they came with sufficient means to support themselves for a spell. No one hears any objection to immigrants from Germany, (France, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Ireland and Scotland, for the reason that most of them arrive here with some money in their pockets. For that matter, most of the Italian immigrants are readily "assimilated," besause, if they don't happen to have

vote in that year was only 40,000 greater than it was in 1896; and, if anything like a full vote is polled next fall, there should be an enormous and unprecedented increase in the total vote. In the eight years ended with November. 1396, this vote increased 2,400,000 and, as the population of the country has been steadily expanding since 1896, the total vote this year should show a far greater increase than that of 1888-96. A thing that renders it extremely difficult to forecast what the increase in this vote may be is the fact that an exceptionally large number of immi-

grants have landed on our shores in recent years. In the eight years ended with 1903 over 3,500,000 foreign-born and a considerable proportion of these persons is now naturalized, and they will take part in the next election.

What the proportion may be, however, it is impossible to judge.

It is none to early for political leaders and managers to grasp the fact that "first voters" are likely to constitute a mose important factor in the approaching campaign than ever before and, as a consequence, that they are likely to prove a greater unknown quantity than has ever been the case

hitherto. Evidently both of the great political parties will need to do a vast amount of missionary work if they hope for victory next November.

President Loubet has begun the sixth year of his administration, and bids fair to complete the full constitutional president, MacMahon, endured for an entire septennate, and in his case the fear of what might befall if the then rather unstable equilibrium should be tain him in power than was his administrative ability. M. Loubet owes his lease of power soley to his personal qualities. Curiously enough, though the most democratic of all presidents of the third republic, M. Loubet has been entertained by and has in turn entertained more high potentates than any previous chief of state in France, monarchial or republican.

There is nothing more encouraging to the local newspaper man than to see home, church, civic societies, and enertainment committees, whenever they happen to want a job of printing done, much money when they land, they are to elsewhere than the newspaper of-

A pack train of 25 horses, with all of their accoutrements, will be one of the novelties at the world's fair. The unusual spectacle will be sent by citizens of Wyoming to mark Wyoming day. The horses will all be equipped as if ready to start on the trall.

A man who prefers the metropolitan daily to a home paper because "it's got more in it." reminds one of a man who picked out the largest pair of boots in the box because they cost no more than a pair that fitted him. ----

Senator Gorman is becoming wiser. persons were added to our population. He has given up his opposition to the increase of he American navy. ----

> The Japanese shot away \$100,000 worth of shells at Vladivostok and not even a mule was killed.

The direct telegraphic communication between Mukden and St. Petersburg is the longest in the world. It extends over 6,000 miles.

A recent French duel wes interrupted because one of the combatants got a blister on his hand.

The threatened coal strike is likely to interrupt hostilities in the far east. ------

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