

THE JOURNAL

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terrible crime, remembered only
that this man was her husband and
the father of her children.

DEATH IN THE MINES.

THE ROLL of death in the mines
of the country presents a
ghastly record. Seventy mangled
and mutilated bodies were
the consequence of an explosion
in a mine at Yolande, Alabama,
Monday.

So great a mortality raises the
question of whether there is not
gross carelessness both on the part
of employer and employe, and
whether the states should not provide
restrictions drastic enough to
secure at least a minimizing of the
horrors.

There was nothing suggesting an
especial "judgment" in this death,
but his brother, Charles F. Havemeyer,
and his sister, Natalie, both
died of pistol wounds, supposed to
have been self-inflicted.

BYRAN THE FAVORITE.

THE NEW YORK WORLD labored
in vain to try to show
that the Democrats of the
country were not favorable to
the nomination of Mr. Bryan for
president next year.

The World has been running a
map showing the territory that has
become Republican under Bryan's
leadership. But how much territory
was regained by the Democrats
under the leadership of the World's
candidate, Parker, in 1904?

All this does not make it certain
that Bryan would be the strongest
nominee, nor that he would win over
much if any Republican territory;
but it does appear pretty clearly
that he is the favorite among Democrats,
and that if beaten he is not
likely to be beaten so badly as a
candidate acceptable to the World,
running on a platform to suit it, would be.

In nearly everything it addresses
itself to, the World is a splendid
specimen of an independent
Democratic newspaper; it steadily
and ably upholds true Democratic
principles and policies in most respects;
but it ingloriously falls down when
it comes to making a practical
application of its professions and
teaching to choosing Democratic
candidates and platforms. There
will be no reactionary movement.

SEVEN TONS OF MONEY.

FOUR MILLIONS in gold has
been brought into Portland
within 40 days. It is the
conservative estimate, according to
the account, that during the period
seven tons of money has been shipped
into the city. Measured by human
effort it is an enormous sum. Yet
it is but a trivial portion of the enormous
aggregate yet to come. It is
the advance wave in that great tide
of gold setting toward Oregon from
the sales of our products abroad.
Many more great waves like it are
yet to arrive. It is the usufruct
from our fields, orchards and forests,
sold and selling in distant markets,
bought by distant consumers for
the sustenance of life and forward
march of world development.
This seven tons of money is but
the twenty-fifth part of the sum that
comes annually into Portland from
the state's production. It is but the
seventh-fifth part of the state's estimated
gross production. It is but a
small fraction of that vast wealth
our labor and enterprise will be
sending to the world within a brief

period down the future. We have
seen dairy production increase
three-fold within five years. We
have seen the fruit output roll up a
similar increase during the same
period. We have seen lumber shipments
show an even greater increase.
All this and much more in the
way of a growing wealth we stand
in the midst of and realize that
real development is only begun.

The panorama before us is a wide
and varied source of production,
minimizing the necessity of importation
and keeping at home and adding
to our earthly store the creations
of our earth. Four millions of
gold is the substantial sign of our
achievement, a small indicator of
what we are doing, a magnificent
promise of what we are set to do.
It is not surprising that young Mr.
Hill, president of the Great North-
ern railroad, said in Portland Saturday:
"The Pacific northwest is
the best portion of the United States
today, not only for future outlook,
but for present conditions in almost
every way." Why should we borrow
trouble over other people's financial
disturbances?

THE TARIFF ON ART.

THERE ARE duties that do
more immediate and visible
harm than the duty on art, yet
perhaps no other duty is more
intrinsically absurd. The Philadel-
phia Telegraph aptly terms it an
"archaic duty." In the scheme of
"reciprocal rapine" somebody de-
manded a duty on pictures and
statuary, and in it went, in recognition
of and deference to the sacred
"principle" of the robber tariff.

This duty is vexatious, if not
materially and widely injurious, as
well as ridiculous. It is a tax that
costs even if the cost is not generally
noticed, about a thousand times as
much as the revenue it produces,
and it "protects" nobody. Even a
windy high tariff spellbinder would
scarcely pretend that this absurd tax
"protects American labor" or any
"infant industry."

Free trade in art would be of
great benefit to American artists—
painters, sculptors and students—
and through them to the whole
people. The tax on art is a tax, pro-
ducing no revenue worth mention-
ing, on education, refinement,
beauty, culture, innocent and benefi-
cial pleasure, and morality—for a
taste for art implies all these.

The excuse, we suppose, is that
this duty is a tax on a luxury. If
so, it is a luxury that ought to be
more enjoyed not only by the rich
and well-to-do, but by the common
people. Every home is a better
place for children if it has some
works of art in it, and if they study
and understand them. It doesn't
take a college-bred millionaire to
appreciate and enjoy a fine picture.
The world's works of art should
have free access to this country.

One of the most important con-
tributions to the discussion of the
financial ills from which the country
is suffering is contained in the
annual report of Comptroller of the
Currency William B. Ridgely, which
was made public at Washington last
Monday. The comptroller strongly
urges the creation of a central national
bank of reserve and issue, and
believes that only by this plan can
the necessary elasticity be imparted
to our currency system. That por-
tion of the report dealing with the
causes of the recent panic and the
proposed remedy is published in full
elsewhere in this issue of The Journal.
It will repay careful study
by our bankers and business men.

Representative Hobson has begun
to voice his misery, to vocally view
with alarm. We hoped that after
Hobson married, and especially after
that first baby was born, he would
forget the nation's awful and im-
minent danger for a while, but no,
in spite of wife and baby he is afflicted
with the "yellow peril" nightmare,
and wants three navies, each bigger
than England's, right away. Else
we will soon be devoured root and
branch by the heathen Chinese and
the shintostle Jap. Fortunately
few people will catch Hobson's choice
of nightmares; it isn't contagious.
It will be well to pay but little at-
tention to him.

Mr. J. H. Hill, in his testimony in
the lumber rate case, said there had
been no decrease in the price of sup-
plies, and that the steel manufac-
turers were keeping the price of that
commodity up. The tariff on steel
enables the trust to do this, but
it will buy its labor as cheaply as
it can, and so will Mr. Hill. If the
price of commodities is not fall-
ing, as Mr. Hill says, why are wages
being reduced?

every Republican on the ticket in
every case, down to dog-catcher, be-
cause of "principles," "historic ten-
dencies," etc., it might be interest-
ing to read in a paper that claims
this an explanation of Cortelyou's
method of relieving the country by
means of interest-bearing certifi-
cates. Was this in pursuance of
some Republican "principle" or
"tendency"? And if so, does that
make it right? And if wrong, must
every Republican approve of it
nevertheless, or at the least keep
mum about it?

Since the government decided to
issue debt certificates, credit cur-
rency, "flat" or "rag money," not
based on gold, why could it not have
done so directly to the people, in-
stead of turning the business over
to the banks, so as to give them a
big profit, and that when they were
\$225,000,000 short in their possible
debts on government deposits?

That start of the big fleet must
have been a grand sight, a splendid
spectacle, as—but these ordinary
phrases can't describe it. The pres-
ident only could do that, as he did
in two words, "perfectly bully."
Many things are "bully" but when
a thing is "perfectly bully," it is—
well, that's what it is.

Wall street must be relieved now
—since the president declared he
would not run again. But Wall
street will not be easy until it gets
a successor to Roosevelt whom it
can keep under its thumb.

Letters From the People

Streetcar Service.
Portland, Dec. 18.—To the Editor of
The Journal—Carriers and different
individuals have given their views
of what relief may be gained from
the re-organized condition along the
Main street car line. The great obsta-
cle to the relief is the fact that the
company seems to be making but doubt-
ful progress in the matter. While we
most heartily concur in this opinion, we
know that time must elapse before we
can see any relief. As long as the com-
pany has the right to keep any car
on this line, it is not to be put
until further means can be had.

Do It Right Now
By John Anderson Jayne.
Have you ever watched a busy man
as he waded through his work?
He didn't waste time in looking after
the non-essentials.
He didn't fool around and while
about the immense amount of work he
had to do.

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ELASTIC CURRENCY EXPLAINED

By Hon. Charles N. Fowler, Chairman
Committee on Currency and
Coinage, House of Representatives, United
States Congress.
We have now proceeded far enough
into the present financial crisis to get
a pretty clear perspective of the real
situation.

First—The condition is now general,
affecting every nook and corner of the
country.
Second—If the gold certificates, the
United States notes and silver certifi-
cates, or the reserve money now scat-
tered broadcast over the land were in
the banks, where they properly belong,
there would have been no money panic
at all.

The proof of the assertion is conclu-
sive. During the last four months there
has been a drain from the banks into
the country districts of approximately \$300,000,000
of currency. Of this amount
approximately \$200,000,000 was reserve
money, and the present crisis would
have been averted. This result could
have been accomplished without in-
creasing the liabilities of the banks of
the country to the extent of one single
cent.

If the banks of the country in which
the \$200,000,000 had been deposited had
been permitted to issue \$200,000,000
of bank notes, the present crisis would
have been averted. This result could
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creasing the liabilities of the banks of
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Small Change

It's only one week off now.
Bet it showed up on Bull Run.
There is no money, panic in sight.

It seems to be Henry's turn to talk.
The panic had to adjourn for Christ-
mas.
There is a "rum" all right—on the
stores.
Confidence in Santa Claus continues
unimpaired.

The increasing shortness of daylight
is also about over.
Rivers for General Funston to swim
are scarce across Goldfield.
Everybody should make the best of
things, but especially cooks.

And even David R. Hill has also been
mentioned by some poor joker.
The merchants have no fear of every-
body having bought their early.
No, Alphonso the clearing house has
nothing to do with the weather.

Many a woman who never drinks
beer understands cooking the growler's
—getting money from her husband.
Harriman "seen the dawn of a rich
era." Which Republican candidate?
A Sunday blue law is calculated to
prevent a brown taste Monday morning.

It is easy to understand that insuffi-
ciency of circulation causes cold feet.
News item country exchanges please
copy: Shopping is the order of the
day.
The schooner Thomas W. Lawson has
been wrecked, but Thomas himself is
still on deck.

Among the fine qualities of the don-
key, Mr. Bryan did not say that he was
a fleet flyer.
We hope Guggenheim is not going to
pay for Democratic convention going
to Denver.
The go between the elephant and the
donkey will be the principal sporting
event of next year.

After his term expires will Roosevelt
accept a trust presidency at a salary
of \$1,000,000 a year?
Ex-Ambassador Aoki says he cannot
understand the president. A diplomat
is not supposed to understand the truth.
Upton Sinclair says his new colony
will live on wheels. But they can't
make a living on the wheels in their
heads.

A man must get a hump who can't
take the hint when at this time of year
his wife is unusually complimentary
and affectionate.
Some of Walter Wellman's corre-
spondence arouses the suspicion that
he imagines that he is manufacturing
inflating material for his airship.
It is yet undetermined among the
newspapers whether the front name of
Senator Jeffries is Arkansas or Jefferson.
But it matters nothing;
call him Jeff.

"Eggs take a drop," says an exchange.
We don't know whether it means that
they were smashed on the sidewalk, or
were preparing themselves for natural
egg-ness.
The Portland Advocate, the colored
people's paper, says: "The colored citi-
zens of Seattle need not get under the
impression that in organizing our Sun-
day Forum we were neglecting or ap-
proving of our Forum never saw or heard
of such a town as Seattle, Wash."

Oregon Sidelights
A Roseburg beet weighs 22 pounds.
Madras Methodists expect to build
next year.
Prineville will have a new brick and
stone Masonic temple.
Drilling is progressing in the hoped-
for oil well near Dufur.
Several deep wells will be drilled
around Madras this winter.
The Baker City Herald is waging
war on hugging in round dances. No
use.
Brownsville is considering the municipal
ownership of its water and light
plant.
Eugene, asserts the Register, has not
had a case of typhoid fever, due to bad
water, for over a year.

There is a big lot of acorns this
year and that body that new money
bags, should keep silent will be rudely
reversed.
Federal pie in Oregon is always insuffi-
cient to go around. In this connec-
tion it might be asked where our Jon-
athan come in? Has any federal pie
been passed by him yet? When is the
bell to ring that will call the faithful
followers of the junior senator to the
dispensing counter?
The masterly inactivity of the United
States attorney-general in the land
fraud cases in this state is exciting the
admiration of many indicted people,
where there is no life there is hope—
for them.

One reason why the city council does
not see anything of regard for the
theatricals of Portland. If the hon-
orable council met evenings it would
have to hire the Forestry building to
accommodate the crowd. The un-
dressed circus or regiment of minstrels
could draw the audience our city's
theatricals would be a wilderness of
evolutions and derivish dances when
Mayor Lane cracks one of his veto
messages on their heads.

While the revolver is held responsible
for many murders it should be credited
with having secured of several burglar
recently, even if no revolver was at
hand. The mere mention of its shield
is sufficient to frighten a burglar, and
should not be forgotten that where people
carry daggers and knives in preference
to revolvers sudden removals of citizens
from the scene of a crime, while police-
men are not so disturbed by any noise and
are compelled to interrupt their inward
reflections to chase the survivors of sur-
prizing encounters. Where there is a
will there is a way, with or without re-
volvers, revolvers are considered by
most of the southern people of Europe
too noisy for safety, and the stiletto
is still a favorite with all classes.

Funny Man!
Our butcher is a funny man—
Perhaps you will recall
That recently the price of meat
Fell to a point where it was
Most people saw it in the news,
And gobbled every word of it,
Buy by some singular mischance,
Our butcher has not been a
—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

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