The Dalles Daily Chronicle.

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ICLE." The Dalles, Oregon.

MONDAY, - - DECEMBER 3, 1894 MINERS VS. THE RAILROAD.

The miners and the owners of mineral lands in Southern Oregon are much aroused over the prospective selection of railroad lands in that region, says the Portland Sun. A recent decision of the United States supreme court, in the case of Borden vs. the Northern Pacific railroad, holds that the secretary of the interior may determine the character of railroad land up to the time of issuing patents to the company, but that after patents are issued the lands are beyond his jurisdiction, and no further hearing to determine the character of the land can be had. Pursuant to this decision, the secretary, last July, issued a circular announcing that wherever a list of railroad selections covered lands located within six miles of any mineral entry, claim, or location, publication should be made for sixty days, calling upon such mineral claimant to appear and protest against the railroad selections, and in the absence of such protest, the lands should be adjudged to be agricultural in character, and the patents issued accordingly to the railroad company. Herein, it appears, lies the danger which the miners claim threatens them. The decisions of the secretary are final, and cannot be reviewed by the courts, and if the miners fail to notice the publication or make their formal protests, they may lose their claims. Hence meetings have been held to arouse interest in the matter, and give notice and information to all claimholders, so that they can go to the local land office and make the necessary showing to protect their claims. The Oregon & California Railroad Company is now, through the regular publication of notice, seeking patents to a large list of lands in Jackson, Josephine and Donglas counties, and the claimowners must file their protests within sixty days from October 8th. The time is rapidly expiring, and it is feared that many miners will neglect to make their protests and so lose their claims. The grant to the Oregon & California was thirty miles in width, and thousands of acres of valuable mining lands are included within the limits of the grant.

There seems to be now no other way of redress for the prospector and miner than that mentioned above, which has led to some adverse criticism of our members of congress and the officials of the interior department.

Adverse criticism is hardly strong enough to express the feeling in the matter. We have long contended that the rock on which this government will eventually wreck is the "double standard laws," one for the rich corporations, another for the people. Here is a case in point. Notwithstanding the fact that the grant to the Oregon & California especially reserved all mineral lands from the operation of the grant, the secretary attempts to violate that law by passing the title of mineral lands to that com-

A private citizen in filing on government land must make what is known as the non-mineral affidavit. That is, he must swear that there are no valuable minerals on the land he proposes to locate. This is a condition precedent, and must be complied with by the set- When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria, tler. He must make the proof. How is it with the corporation? The secretary undertakes to throw the burden of proviug the mineral-bearing character of the land upon the prospector-if any; and to relieve the corporation from any responsibility whatever.

The honorable secretary may allow that ruling to stand as his idea of right and justice; but if he does, he violates the law he has sworn to uphold. We have always looked upon the secretary of the interior as one of the most upright and honorable gentlemen in the president's cabinet; but if the above ruling is allowed to stand, we have been mistaken as to his character. The head of the department, whoever he may be, or whatsoever his politics, who undertakes to enforce that ruling, deserves immediate impeachment.

Congress met at noon today and the democracy now have until the 4th of March next to legislate as best suits it. After that its control of the house is gone, and the senate if not against it will be at least not for it. There is plenty of time to make lots of laws, but we do not believe there is much inclination to make them. The tariff will not be further disturbed, and the only thing of importance concerning which a battle may occur is the financial question. It is said that the president is formulating a new plan for the currency, if so, that question may lead to the eventual destruction of our present national bank system. The president has not given any intimation to congress as to when his message will be submitted to it, and until it is what his ideas on the currency DR. A. DIETRICH, question are can only be guessed at.

The Portland Universal exposition opened Saturday night with an atten-

display of fireworks. It is to be hoped that it will prove a success financially and that the debt that has hung so heavily on the management may be entirely litted. Portland's exposition is one of the best advertisements this state ever had, and we hope it may not again be postponed.

The "Ship of the Desert" Now Known to Thrive in Cold Countries.

According to a recent dispatch from St. Petersburg the wild camel has been discovered in large numbers in that portion of Asia which lies between Lobnor and Sajuy. This will dispose of the doubts that have hitherto prevailed on the question as to whether the "ship of the desert" really exists in an untamed condition. From time immemorial, says the New York Tribune, two species of tame camel have been in use, namely, that known as the dromedary, with only one hump, and found in India, Arabia and Africa, while the one with two humps is met with in Central Asia, Persia and the south of Russia. Both species figure in the sculptures of Assyria, and are mentioned in the oldest books of the Bible, but always as domestic animals, and no trace exists of their being drafted from their savage state into civilized life. Indeed, it has generally been supposed that the camel never existed otherwise than as a beast of burden, and the few specimens of wild dromedaries which have hitherto been secured by travelers and hunters have been regarded as merely some of the domestic species that had reverted to the freedom of barbarism. Zoologically speaking, the newly discovered wild camel of Lobnor does not differ widely from the domesticated animal, except there is almost an entire lack of hump, and that its sagacity and sense are developed to a most remarkable degree of keenness. And, whereas we have hitherto been accustomed to associate this animal with ideas of the torrid heat of the African and Arabian deserts, it would appear that it thrives nowhere so well as in the coldest por tions of Siberia, suffering no inconvenience even from the most severe winters, when the thermometer is many degrees below zero.

COMPOSING ON THE MARCH. Melody Came to Him in the Ranks, and It Almost Caused Trouble.

Benvenuto Coronaro, the composer, recently published some reminiscences in one of the Italian musical papers. He was serving once in the army, and was ordered to take part in a long him. He could not get rid of it. He heard it above the "toots" of the trum-pets and the beat of the drums.

Suddenly, the fear possessed him that necessary to write it down. Taking courage, he drew his note-

the ranks, and the sergeant hurried toward him. "Are you crazy?" he asked. "Take

our place in the company at once." to whistle the tune in the face of the under officer. "That was too much," says the com-

poser. "He drew his sword, and was about to strike me over the back when the captain appeared. The sergeant made a report, while I continued to write.

"What are you writing? thundered the captain. I handed him the notewhich he rend quickly.

"'The man is to continue writing,' he went on. 'But if that piece (and he pointed to the sheet of paper in my hand) is not played by the regimental band to-morrow morning he will be put in prison for eight days. He then put spurs to his horse and disappeared.

"The band played the piece on the following day.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria. When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria, When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

Timber-Culture, Final Proof.

U. S. LAND OFFICE, The Dalles, Or., U. S. LAND OFFICE, The Dalles, Or., 1 Notice is hereby given that Charles Koehler has filed notice of intention to make final proof before Register and Receiver at their office in The Dalles, Oregon, on Saturday, the 8th day of December, 1894, on timber-culture application No. 2337, for the Wig NEig, and NWig 8Eig, and NEig 8Wig, of section No. 30, in township No. 2 south, range No. 15 cast.

He names as witnesses: A. F. Haynes, Dufur, Oregon; Frank Hathaway, Edward Griffin, Reuben Haynes, Boyd, Oregon.

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Mt. Hood Camp No. 59, Meets Tuesday evenng of each week in Fraternity Hall, at 7:30 p. m. COLUMBIA LODGE, NO. 5, I. O. O. F.—Meets every Friday evening at 7:30 o'clock, in K. of P. hall, corner Second and Court streets. Sojourning brothers are welcome. H. CLOUGH, See'y. H. A. BILLS, N. G.

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