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FRIDAY, - - - AUGUST 2, 1895

NO FARM RECEIVERS.

The decision of Judge Bellinger rendered yesterday in the case of Thompson vs. Shurley, followed to its logical conclusion is of the greatest interest to all farmers who have borrowed money of loaning companies and given mortgages to secure the loan in which there is a provision that in case of foreclosure proceedings the mortgagee may have a receiver to take and dispose of growing crops and apply the proceeds upon the mortgage.

The decision itself is simply to the effect that the receiver in that particular case was not entitled to compensation for his services; but it is based upon the ground that the provision in such mortgages is inequitable. Assuming that farmers make mortgages hurriedly and frequently without reading them over, or that they make mortgages under circumstances such that it is absolutely imperative that they obtain the loan, this decision is justice. It may be wise and just under any assumption; but is there not something to be said on the question? Farmers are ordinarily possessed of the intelligence of average men; the making of a mortgage upon their farm is usually a very deliberate transaction entered into after careful consideration, and, in the case of loaning companies, are usually made to procure money to make improvements or enlarge their business; they usually have it in their power to make the maturity of the loan come at a convenient season of the year; they make the agreement willingly; the mortgage company relies upon the agreement in parting with their cash. For the court to say that under these circumstances the contract shall be wiped out would strike a man who had loaned his money on that kind of a mortgage as an injustice.

That the decision, if followed, is a great benefit to farmers, there is no question; it will benefit them in two ways, viz, it will relieve those who have made such mortgages from applying their crop upon that particular debt and it will prevent, in many cases, those who want to borrow, from getting money. Both results will be only beneficial in the long run.

THE INDIAN WAR.

With all the uproar and excitement concerning the latest Indian raid, there has not yet been printed one report of the violation of the law which called for the great expense on the part of the United States. That there are some renegade Indians travelling about the section of country referred to as Jackson's Hole, there is no question, and wisdom called for the dispatch of a troop of soldiers; but a single company of U. S. cavalry would have served the purpose and brought to terms the few Indians now there, who seem to be disposed to go on excursion on their own hook. Every report of massacres and outlawry has been the merest rumor—a cry of wolf! Local state officers ought to ascertain something of facts before creating such a turmoil.

A few dollars would furnish a band stand and a band stand will give our citizens as fine music as one hears outside a world's fair. Who in The Dalles is public spirited enough to build a stand? If no more convenient place is offered we would suggest the school yard, between Court and Union streets. The CHRONICLE will receive subscriptions and find a man who will superintend the construction. Fifty dollars will no doubt furnish a suitable structure; we yesterday paid hundreds of dollars to transients for a couple of hours' of entertainment of not half so beneficial a nature as the music the Orchestral Union offers us when we build a stand.

The Horr-Harvey debate is closed and there are the same number of free silver men and the same number of anti-free silver men as before they began the yow yow. They both know more about the subject they have been talking about, but they are about the only ones who do; and if there are any others who have read the reports carefully they have by this time forgotten what was said. So no harm has been done after all.

Pennoyer's mercy is again conspicuous for its misapplication. Bluford Douglas, who was convicted of burglary, sentenced to a year and a half in the penitentiary in 1894, pardoned out after serving a few months, is again wanted in

this county on a charge of horsestealing. Of course he did not steal a horse, because horses are so cheap now, no young man would steal one; but he is suspected of having been foolish enough to make the attempt. Wasco county would have been saved considerable expense had Douglas been permitted to remain where he was put by his conviction before Judge Bradshaw a little over a year ago.

A writer to THE CHRONICLE complains of our system of laws which permits the bringing of criminal charges to serve the ends of private grudges. People are too prone in rushing to the courts with fancied injuries and making a bill of costs which the county must pay. Our correspondent speaks of this system growing till it has become an incubus, disastrous to justice and the best interests of the people, and complains that the last legislature did not do its duty in refusing to pass a law compelling the complaining party to pay or guarantee the costs in all petty suits where the charge proved entirely groundless.

Indian Caroline Dead.

The Indian Caroline, who for many years has been a well known character around The Dalles, died last night in the city jail. There was a suspicion that she may have been poisoned. The woman was found by Policeman Connelley and Billy Moabus by The Dalles Lumbering Company's store. She was suffering great agony and soon went into violent spasms. Dr. Eshelman was called and administered medicine, but the woman was passed earthly aid and died almost immediately after being conveyed to the city jail.

There is a suspicion that she may have been poisoned and there is some testimony tending to this view. But after sifting the evidence the coroner's jury did not consider it sufficient to bring in a verdict of death other than from natural causes. The inquest was held this morning in Michell's undertaking parlors and conducted by Coroner Butts. F. D. Hill, F. A. Phelps, J. F. Root, Hugh Chrisman, M. Herrick and S. B. Adams served as the jury. Frank Connelly, Dr. Eshelman, Lonn Stevens, Wm. Moabus, J. Foster and F. N. Hill were examined as witnesses.

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