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SALEM, FRIDAY, AUGUST 10, 1877.

Signs of the Times.

If the late strikes and their attendant riots are to be taken as signs of the times, they should be studied closely, and their relation to our country and its institutions be inquired into. This is the true field for the political economist to labor in.

We are cursed with a great national debt, with national extravagance and much corruption in public affairs; with private extravagance that squanders millions abroad that should be retained to build up industries at home.

We read that everywhere the laborer demands work unavailingly and that capital greedily accepts the national four per cent. loan because it cannot find safe investment in the usual course of trade and property.

With the nineteenth century there has come over the world such changes as the centuries that preceded it had never dreamed of. The railroad, the reaper and threshing machines, the sewing machine, the telegraph, the manifold labors of the steam engine in all its departments, have helped what we call progress, but it is a great matter for doubt if they have not helped to make the rich the richer, and the poor the poorer.

Our readers will resent the idea that the farmer is becoming a monopolist, but a gentleman of our acquaintance, who is an extensive farmer, while discussing the labor question with us not long since, held up the farmer as most successful among all monopolists, for he owns the land that all depend upon for bread, and as he drives through his yellow ripe grain, alone on his self binder, he bids labor defiance and is most independent of all.

The world as we know it and as it was when our sires fought for freedom, is a very different world. Such great wealth as is amassed by individuals to-day, was not then known. Such means for accumulation did not exist. Opportunity was wanting for the exercise of the great speculative faculties that some men possess.

And yet, human nature is the same, it is only that greater opportunity exists for its exercise. We have suggested some of the great causes for the recent struggle between labor and capital but we cannot reach any remedy, any solution of the problem that demands solution. Certain it is that great waste must be repaired; great extravagance must be followed by corresponding economy; the loss of the nation must be supplied by taxation of its individuals.

The great inventions of our age have no doubt to some degree disturbed the equilib-

rium of the labor market. It is plain enough that if labor saving machines dispense with labor so that the working man cannot earn his bread, the world is loser rather than gainer by the invention, but may it not be that while these inventions diversify labor they do not dispense with it.

In the Patriarchal age men tilled the earth and herded their flocks and while there was little to constitute society there was also little dependence upon the labors of fellow man. What man could become has been demonstrated by the progress of invention, and most probably the invention of the future will excel that of the past, but it must be carefully watched that human rights are not trampled on by what we call human progress.

Railroad Nursery.

When at Portland, not long since, we met Mr. W. H. Prettyman, of the Railroad Nursery, East Portland, and upon his invitation paid a visit to his grounds, which are situated on the Base Line road, towards Mt. Taber, two and a half miles from the river.

A New Peach Disease.

PORTLAND, Or., Aug. 3, 1877. ED. FARMER: Permit me through your columns to call attention to a disease which recently made its appearance in the peach orchards in Eastern Oregon, and I am informed that the same made its appearance along the Sacramento River, Cal. It was first discovered by the writer on the ternip tops at Hood river. The following season it manifested itself on the young peach trees in the nursery, and the year after it afflicted that portion of the orchard.

Tally One for Wasco County.

Oh, dear! What a funny set of law makers we had in our last legislature! Such comical, joking, clownish sort of fellows, overflowing with wit, hilarity, and tangle-foot. I am confident no other State has ever produced and assembled such a company of vent-busters as we.

When he said that he understood there was money being used, and that he was a poor man and wanted some, when the truth was, he didn't want a cent, he was only in fun?

Equally good, too, was the remark made to his colleague, Mr. Butler, when he asked: "Hadden't we better make a plea?" This is true no matter what, and if you can't bring in a laugh right here, you had better 'hang up,' for you are not capable of appreciating the ridiculous.

Yes, sir, there's no use talking, Mosler was the peer of all those law-making wags, and Wasco feels proud of her illustrious son. If it hadn't been for his bad memory, with proper training from the time he was a small boy up to the present, he would not only have been the peer of those funny gentlemen at Salem, but the peer of all inveterate jokers, and handed his name down to succeeding generations, honored and revered.

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OREGON State Fair. 1877.

Booths Rented at Auction.

THE BOOTHS ON THE FAIR GROUNDS OF the Oregon State Agricultural Society will be rented at auction, to the highest bidder, for the Fair week of 1877 only, on THURSDAY, August 23d, at 10 o'clock a. m. to take place on the Fair grounds at Salem. Parties desiring booths at auction will be required to comply with all the rules and regulations of said fair governing the use of the buildings, and to enclose their money with the officers of the Society on the evening of Saturday of said Fair week.

Special Notice. Licenses will be granted as heretofore. Twenty per cent. of the rental money will be required in advance, the balance on or before Oct. 6th, 1877, all in United States gold coin.

Administratrix's Notice. NOTICE is hereby given that Mary Hoyt has this day been appointed by the Probate Court of Marion County, State of Oregon, as administratrix of the estate of Joseph Hoyt, late of said county, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate will present them to me at my residence in Salem, Oregon, within six months from date, or they will be forever barred.

Why Buy Get a Singer! Second-class Sewing Machines, when you can get a Singer!

Citation. In the County Court of the State of Oregon, for the County of Marion. In the matter of the Estate of James Rickey, deceased. James M. Rickey, Administrator.

Estray Notice. At Wm. Taylor's, 7 miles east of S. Salem, in the Wasco Hills is a COW and CALF. The cow is a speckled or a roan Durham, five or six years old. The calf is the same color as the cow, and is a heifer. The cow is marked on her forehead, except a 'V' shaped mark. Also, one red STEER two years of age; half crop and a sil in the right ear, and a sil in the left ear.

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HAMILTON BOYD, MANAGER. 72 First St., PORTLAND. Salem, April 30, 1877.

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NOTICE TO PERSONS INTENDING TO EMIGRATE TO OREGON.

Direct Passage from New York to Portland, Oregon.

LAND DEPARTMENT O. & C. R. PORTLAND JUNE 25, 1877. THE OREGON STEAMSHIP COMPANY HAS agreed to carry on its iron steamship, now being built at Chester Pa., by John Roach & Son, upon her completion, on or about the 15th day of January, direct, via the Straits of Macellan, at the extremely low rate of \$75 00 currency, board included.

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Oregon State Fair. Oct. 1876.

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