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THE MODERN DRUGGISTS - PENDLETON



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1902.

THE RAPE FIEND.

A negro was lynched in Oregon yesterday for rape. He was lynched in broad daylight by unmasked men. His crime was that of assaulting a married woman. She was passing along a lonely spot. The negro rushed upon her from ambush and accomplished his purpose under threats of murder should she give the outcry. She then went and promptly reported the crime and a mob of determined citizens ran the negro down and killed him. They peppered him with shot from their guns and were on their way to hang him when he expired from loss of blood.

The papers are already saying they served him right. They call him a negro rape fiend. If he had been down South the Northern press would have put it down as another outrage perpetrated upon a "colored citizen." There would have been all kinds of adverse comment against the people down there.

It is another lesson to the Northern citizen. The North has had many lessons of late of like character. In the North, where there is not one negro in 1000 population as compared with the South, rape is being perpetrated by them here with a greater proportion according to their population than in the South. Lynchings in the North are also at a larger per cent according to the negro population, than in the South. Yet it is brutal to lynch in the South and right in the North.

This is not true. It is not right to lynch anywhere. The law should always take its course. The negro is a citizen of the country, made so through blood and tears, and he should always be protected as other citizens are protected. But this abuse of one section for doing a thing that those complaining would do under the same circumstances, should cease. The two sections should come together on this point and form some plan not only to stop lynchings, but to prevent the cause of the lynchings. It is a scientific age, and the American people can accomplish anything. The rape fiend is a disease. He is the consummation of a loathsome disease. He is so by inheritance. His posterity became such by inheritance. Smallpox and a hundred other contagious diseases, including yellow fever, have been controlled by science, and why not control the rape fiend disease? It has cost this country reputation, bitter comment and human lives. It has sacrificed the most sacred honor, that of pure woman. It is the bitterest enemy to our laws and our welfare. To cut it out would be the greatest of modern achievements. No price would be too high. Let it be done, should it be necessary to colonize, transport, exile, emasculate, blot out this class forever.

In the meantime, let the North cease its abuse of the South. If the rape fiend who assaults a woman and despoils her honor in the North should be lynched what about the brute in the South who spares not the cradle, and not only despoils and tortures, but kills? Burning at the stake is worse than torturing with guns and rope, but braining the husband, despoiling the wife, assaulting the girl baby and then murdering the wife and child and setting the house on fire over them all to hide the deed is a greater crime than that committed by Alonzo Tucker, the rape fiend, yesterday in Oregon.

Explorers keep forging nearer and nearer the north pole. It is only a question of time until it will be reached. Explorer Peary, who has just returned from an expedition, states that he reached four degrees farther north than has ever been reached before. The previous record was 80 degrees and 27 minutes. Mr. Peary's present record is 84 degrees and 17 minutes. Another expedition is forging toward the south pole. Modern man will soon explore every point on this sphere, and, with the flying machine, he may branch out later to other points.

Portland is responding to the relief of the sufferers from the late forest fires with true open-handed charity. The woolgrowers of Oregon, who were in session at Pendleton Tuesday, were the first to start the fund on foot. They gave \$100 as a body and individual members stated that it was only necessary to find out how much was needed and it would be raised. The people of Oregon are noted for their charity when a deserving case is presented.

Bryan is certainly a lucky man, outside of politics. His marvelous escape from death yesterday in a train wreck is the second one of the same kind since he has been playing to the galleries. His luck is only equaled by that of President Roosevelt who escaped from the collision with an electric car a few days ago. But neither has yet tackled an automobile.

The Boxers are again shaking China, even unto her very walls. It is claimed that the theories of the Boxers are similar to that of what is known as socialism in this country, the main difference being that the socialists here do not believe in murder and rioting.

Now that the United States marines are taking a part in the Panama trouble, it is presumed that the insurgents will quit.

AXMAN SPARE THE TREE.

The information is given out that all but 91 of the Calaveras big trees have been included in the sale of a timber tract, and that the buyers will soon begin lumbering on their purchase.

This is sad news, and bad. One would think that there is enough timber in California for economic uses without attacking these great trees, which are the oldest examples of inanimate life in the world. They give no evidence of having passed their prime. The decay age is not upon them. If it were there might be some excuse for their harvest and conversion to the uses of man. But they still stand erect, their verdure untouched by age, and their foothold on mother earth as firm as when they were saplings in that far past before man had erected nations or organized government.

Not many hundreds of them exist. They were migratory, and dendrologists find evidence of their original habitat beyond the Arctic circle, whence they started on a journey southward, going below the present southern boundary of California. But they found existence nowhere under as favorable conditions as in our mountains, and they have ceased to live elsewhere. In their chosen home they have outlasted ages. Some of them have undoubtedly seen over 6000 years. They were contemporaries of the volcanoes which built up our mountain peaks. They were here when Shasta and Diablo and the Lassen Buttes were the lighthouses of the great range and the great valley. Some of them were growing when Lake Tahoe was a seething crater and the San Joaquin valley was an inland sea. There is no doubt that the great mammoth, the elphus primogenius, scratched his hairy sides against their trunks, and the great bear, the ursus horribilis, rested in their shade. Talk of the old ruins of the Eastern Hemisphere, to which we make pilgrimage,

is talk about things of yesterday, when the age of these trees is compared with that of the sphinx and pyramids. Man did not build them. Joaquin Miller said that the greatest architect could not build a tree. But man's hand can easily destroy that which it cannot build, and it is about to be put to the task of destroying these ancient works of nature, to make a few dollars!

It is bad for the trees that man and government ever overtook them. If man and government cannot save that which flourished without them. We protect the buzzard and the gull and the sea lions from slaughter and extermination. We give the wild deer a chance by making a close season in which no man's hand can slay them, unpunished. We give to the fishes of the sea and river shelter of the same law that man makes for his own protection. But deer and wild birds and fish may be easily restored to their cover and to the waters. In a few years they can be multiplied and renewed. Not so these autoctons that are the primates of the forest. Their growth was so slow that they were intended to be companions of time, the comrades of the centuries, the epochs, the aeons. They cannot be exterminated, to be renewed and reach the majesty of their perfection in the lifetime of a man.

To the dendrologist they appear conscious of their great destiny in the preparation they make for their career. In their first youth they bulge at the ground and taper rapidly. This bulging base is their foothold and foundation. From it their roots go far afield, cleaving the granite and clinching in its crevices to hold up their great height. Like athletes they poise and balance and prepare for their weight and height they are to carry, and fit themselves to defy mountain stormst hat are to beset them, the great gales that are to try their temper and the heavy snows that are to try to crush them.

Man in all his wisdom and experience, with the resources of science and art within his reach, nowhere makes more conscious preparation for his life and destiny than they. They stand the most impressive and interesting and valuable of the creations of nature. They are the oldest plants that the sun shines upon, and the most ancient relics of vegetable life we know.

We have learned to call the destruction of man's works by man vandalism, from the stern northern people who with hard hoof trampled into dust the elegant evidences of Roman civilization. But man replaced the refined creations that the vandals destroyed. The offense they committed was slight compared to that which is chargeable to the exterminators of these old trees and grand. The sensibilities of a few Californians are tempered and on edge as the great catastrophe approaches. But the majority are indifferent, and the almost human groan of the great creatures as they fall strikes upon deaf ears. No hand is raised to prevent the sacrifice. Commerce seizes upon the dead bodies of these great brethren, and they are sold in the market place and the money is banked, and the enterprise of man has found its meanest expression in the murder of the trees. —San Francisco Call.

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