

The West.

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SINCE news was received that the Siuslaw law was retained in the river and harbor bill now before congress, new enterprises have sprung up like mushrooms after a spring shower. Verily, we are a great people.

It is more than probable that an increase in the Siuslaw harbor appropriation will be made in the senate. It is due the rich and prosperous county of Lane that her people receive a rightful recognition before congress.

A YOUNG man in Geneva county, Alabama, has been fined \$150 for kissing a young woman against her will. As the defendant testified that he had kissed the plaintiff 150 times the cost per kiss would appear to have averaged one dollar.

More people should attend church. No matter what a man's views are as to religion it surely cannot hurt him to attend church occasionally. Go to church once in a while—it only requires about an hour of your time each week to go once every Sunday, as it helps to pass away the usually long Sunday.

CAPTAIN Timothy Meaher, a veteran steamboatman of Mobile, Ala., died recently, aged 79 years. He imported the last cargo of slaves brought to the United States. In 1861 he brought over 160 negroes and spirited them into a canebrake 100 miles up stream. The thirty negroes that fell to his lot he settled in a suburb of Mobile, where they and their descendants have remained. They have never associated with other negroes, are but partially civilized, still use their native language, and are ruled by a queen of their own choosing.

THE jury system as practiced in courts of the present day is a travesty upon justice. The idea of trying to make twelve men agree upon a verdict by imprisoning them until they shall do so is only comparable with that of making a child truthful by flogging him when he does wrong. The average juror doesn't care whether a man is innocent or guilty when it interferes with his comfort. A night passed on a hard bench is quite likely to convict an innocent man or free a guilty one. One stubborn juror can easily bring eleven careless ones to his way of thinking by holding out long enough.

EVERY issue of the Newport Times is an encyclopedia of the resources of the Yaquina valley and the advantages offered by that locality. One page of that estimable paper is devoted exclusively to facts and figures pertaining to that part of Oregon, interspersed here and there with cuts of their river, mills, harbor improvements, etc. All this work involves the outlay of a goodly amount of money, but it must surely be a paying investment, else why do they keep it up year after year. THE WEST would like to suggest something of this nature for the Great Siuslaw valley. The expense

would be too great for us to shoulder alone, but we will subscribe toward the project as liberally as any other citizen of the valley.

A BILL introduced in the Senate by Mr. Morgan provides that the United States shall send a consul general to the Congo Free State at a salary of \$4000 a year and a vice consul at \$2000 a year. There is now a commercial agent at Boma, and although the salary is \$5000 the place is vacant. The climate is so unhealthy there is no demand for this sinecure. The consul general is to be stationed at Boma, according to Mr. Morgan's bill, and the vice consul further up the Congo River at Stanley Pool.

FROM the far distant East comes many inquiries relative to the resources of the Great Siuslaw valley, and from some of these effete states comes the information that many families are preparing their departure for this wonder land of ours. It is really astonishing that the influx of people to this locality of ours, which is now promised, should be as great as it is considering the very limited amount of advertising that has been given it. A good healthy advertising would do untold good in the line of developing many resources, among which might be mentioned our coal mines, our quartz ledges, our terra cotta mines, our unlimited area of fine agricultural land and our billions of feet of the best of pine timber. As we think of the matter we cannot but wonder how these people on the outside could have possibly sought out information sufficient to warrant them coming when so little is given them by us.

ALTHOUGH the fact is not known by more than a dozen of its citizens, Detroit has a factory which is manufacturing dynamite cartridges for use in the pneumatic guns on board the torpedo ship "Vesuvius." The same factor is also making a model of a submarine boat which is expected to revolutionize marine warfare. The dynamite cartridge will contain 100 pounds of the explosive and is so constructed that it can remain under a vessel's bottom any time up to half an hour at the operator's discretion. The cartridge is made of magnetized iron which will cling to a vessel tenaciously. The boat is fifty feet long, ten feet beam and ten feet depth of hold. Compartments filled with water submerge the boat so that nothing but the top of the smokestack and the upper line of the pilot houses are visible. It is thought the boat will be able to sink any craft afloat. The place of construction is kept a secret, as are the names of the capitalists backing the scheme.

ONE of the drawbacks to the extension of American trade in Brazil under the new reciprocity treaty is the prevalence of yellow fever and other diseases in that country. It seems to be almost as much as a sailor's life is worth to enter some

of the Brazilian ports. The port of Santos is particularly dangerous. The pestilence frequently breaks out aboard ships as soon as they reach the wharves of Santos, and in many cases whole crews are stricken down at the same time. The following extract from a letter recently received in New York from Santos is said to describe the condition of affairs aboard many ships at Santos: "I buried the captain of the 'Java' last night; that now makes captain, mate, second mate, carpenter, sail-maker, four boys, and six able seamen, all dead." Trade with Brazil will need to be very profitable to make shipowners undergo such risks. Fortunately, yellow fever is not a disease that spreads easily in Northern countries, or the arrival of ships in New York from Brazil might prove dangerous to the whole of the United States.

It is calculated that at the present moment horse flesh is a staple article of food in one out of three households in Paris, and there is reason to believe that if the rise in the price of butcher meat which has been brought about by the new tariff continues, the customers of the horse butcher will represent at least two-thirds of the entire population. There are within the fortifications of Paris no fewer than 184 butchers' shops where no other meat is allowed to be sold than the flesh of horses, asses and mules. They are nearly all situated in the outlying and most squalid quarters of the city. At these establishments during 1891 there was retailed for human consumption the flesh of 21,231 horses, 275 asses, and 61 mules. Attached to each horse-butcher's establishment are a certain number of brokers, as they are called, who travel in the provinces and tout for the lame and otherwise unserviceable animals. In this way the supply for the metropolitan market is drawn from a radius of something like 300 miles round the capital. A fatal accident to one of the well-fed horses of the Paris General Omnibus Company is a windfall to the horse-butcher, for its carcass will yield joints, steaks, chops and cutlets of prime quality. The worn-out old hacks which have hardly any flesh upon their bones are converted into sausages.

"One-half the world knows not how the other half lives," and it is fortunate on the whole it does not. To know of all the misery and suffering in the world and be powerless to alleviate it would, to sensitive people, be worse than torment. One such story as is told by the *St. Louis Chronicle*, of a newly-made widow, would be enough for one day. She was a pale-faced, tenement-house resident, with four little children. "One needs so many things!" she sighed plaintively. "One day last week I was out of coal and I sent out for a bushel, but I only had 8 cents; the coal was 9. The coal man said he would wait until I

could pay the rest. Then my husband wanted a sour drink. He had a burning fever, poor fellow, and wanted a lemon so bad"—she stopped her needle just long enough to wipe away a tear—there were other mouths to be fed—"but I didn't have the 2 cents to buy the lemon—and—and—I couldn't get it." Then she broke down and sobbed with her apron over her face. "Oh, it seems as if I wouldn't have felt half so bad when I saw his dear, dead face in the coffin yesterday if I hadn't thought how he wanted that drink and I could not get it! I wake up at night and think of it until it seems as if it will drive me wild!" Then she choked back the sobs and hurried on with her work. The woman's earnings by making pants at 84 cents per dozen grows smaller with every moment taken for tears. But can you imagine it? A shortage of 3 cents to buy the necessaries of life! The lack of two pennies to get a drink to cool the fevered thirst of a loved one who is dying, making life a long agony of regret! Did you ever realize before the value of a postage stamp?—*Oregonian*.

THE war clouds are slowly piling up and the two great nations are shaping themselves to meet in fierce battle should the present trouble result in anything more serious than a weekly discussion. A Washington dispatch to the *Oregonian* under date of March 25th says: The sole subject of talk in official circles is the danger of war with England. Few believe that war will result, but all see the danger of it and look for England to recede from the position she has taken, as they regard that position as utterly untenable. The prevailing opinion is that war is preferable to the United States retiring from the position she has taken. No fears are expressed as to the ultimate outcome should a war be declared, but at the same time, while not expecting it, the United States will not be wholly unprepared should it come. Aside from the activity which was displayed by the navy, in anticipation of trouble with Chili, the officials of the army are beginning to bestir themselves in acquainting themselves with the strength of the enemy. The United States navy is now stronger than for many years and attention is being directed to the army. In the event of war Canada would doubtless be attacked and overrun immediately. The official reports of the Canadian government show it has in the militia 36,000 men. On the muster rolls of the states there are 140,000 militiamen. The United States army is 25,000 strong, and a formidable force is now on the Canadian border. The Nineteenth infantry is stationed at Detroit, Mich.; the Ninth infantry at Sackett's Harbor, N. Y.; five companies at Forts Niagara and Potter, and the Fourteenth infantry at Vancouver, Wash. Aside from this formidable force, which could be thrown into Canada at the several points at a few hours notice, strong bodies of United States troops are stationed along the Canadian border at Forts Buford, Spokane, Sherman and Assiniboine. These facts were very generally discussed at the war department today and created some little enthusiasm as the old veterans of the war sniffed the battle from afar.