

# THE WEST.

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FLORENCE, LANE COUNTY, OREGON.

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Editor and Proprietor.

## CUBAN BELLIGERENCY.

Oregonian:

On the fair assumption that we shall find ourselves confronted with the question whether we ought any longer to refuse to recognize the Cubans as independent, or at all events as belligerents, J. S. Tucker writer the New York Sun that we will find ourselves in a position much stronger than that which was held by France to justify the recognition of our belligerency at the breaking out of the Revolutionary war. France then acted upon the principle that it was to her interest to recognize the United States as belligerents, because she would thereby obtain a large part of the valuable commerce of America, which up to that time had been monopolized by Great Britain. On this ground that it was for her interest, France did not hesitate for one moment to recognize the United States as belligerents in July, 1776, but as to the recognition of their independence, France hesitated, and it was not until more than a year and a half after she had recognized the United States as belligerents that she acknowledged their independence by the treaties of February 6, 1778.

Against the recognition of our belligerency Great Britain did not protest at the time, although the king of Portugal, at the instigation of Great Britain, had issued an edict shutting his ports against American commerce. While the British ministry did not demand the exclusion of American commerce from the ports of France, they bitterly and constantly complained that the American insurgents were permitted to purchase contraband of war for shipment to America, but the French ministry insisted on the right of a neutral state to sell such articles in its own ports to all purchasers. Early in 1778, after the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga in October, 1777, had proved the ability of the Americans to maintain their independence, France recognized the United States as free and independent states. Great Britain instantly recalled her minister and declared war on France.

The congress which assembled in December next will be called upon to decide whether we will follow the example of France in our revolution and recognize the Cubans as belligerents, welcome their commerce, and ultimately acknowledge their independence, or adopt the policy of Portugal, and denounce them as rebels and exclude them from our ports.

A RECENT novel sight in Glasgow was a squad of American laborers with an American roller engaged in asphaltting one of the streets. A large number of American ideas are on their travels abroad.—Ex.

Gov. STEPHENS is quoted as saying that "no true man with the pardoning power would permit his wife to remain in prison." If the wife of an official vested with the pardoning power is duly and fairly convicted of a grave crime she ought to be treated precisely as any other woman under the same circumstances. The pardoning power is a public trust, not a personal privilege.—Coast Mail.

ANDREW CARNEGIE, says that he has offered the Carnegie armor plate works to the United States government. If the offer is not accepted, the firm will sell them abroad. He says that he only took up the armor business from a sense of duty to his country, and that the works have never paid. The firm means to sell out at the smallest possible loss.

THE NEIGHBORHOODS in Oregon and Washington which have good creameries are fortunate. Even when the price of dairy products has been low the dairying communities have remained in the best financial condition. There are a good many farmers who have heretofore been confining themselves almost exclusively to fruit growing or some other one branch of farming who are now thinking it would be better for them if they could also engage to some extent in dairying. Where there is a creamery near at hand it is an easy matter to make a start with a few cows.

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## WILL WOMAN BEAT TRAMP

Conditions Which Provoke Belief That She Will.

A woman now tells us that if machinery replaces labor in the future as it has in the past, the next generation will see this country flooded with female tramps. Mrs. Izella M. Wetherell of St. Louis, makes this astonishing statement, and advances a host of facts in support of her assertion. "The machinery problem is serious," she says, "A laundry puts in two machines and deprives twenty-five girls of work. Labor-saving machinery is doing this all over the country, but only capital is reaping the benefits. It should be equitably divided between capital and labor.

"The women themselves are more to blame for women being out of work and poorly paid than is the introduction of machinery. If women would organize and demand better wages it would be better not only for the women, but for the men. Eugene Debs, in formulating his plan for colonizing the workmen, overlooked the women entirely. It was a serious oversight.

"The constant increase in the number of women employed in various callings is one of the most important factors in the scarcity of work for men. Three hundred thousand men are now out of work because their places have been taken by women.

"Too many married women with husbands to support them and young girls with homes are doing the work which women dependent upon their labor for a living should be doing. One effect of working women organizing would be to diminish the number of those who work simply for pin money or to keep from being idle. These women not only take work from those who need it, but they keep wages down.

"The only hope for women is in organization, but it is uphill work. Many expect to marry, and hence take no interest in any effort to better the condition of working women. Many others take no interest in themselves. They are mere machines, who hardly look beyond the day's work and the pittance received for it.

"The women will not stand together, like men in a body. They wrangle among themselves and forget the real purpose of their organization.

"Trade unionism has been the means of accomplishing much, but competition on the one hand and unionism on the other are a means of warfare belonging to a less civilized state.

"The love of the home seems to be dying out alike among the working women and the young married women of the wealthy class. The working women are too much occupied in their daily labor and the rich young women in the frivolities of society. The cares of home life are a greater burden to them than the pleasure derived from it. This is a dangerous tendency, which should be corrected. The home is the anchorage of women.

"Too many young women enter business life with no serious thought beyond remaining in it until the first chance presents itself of catching a husband."

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## A GOOD SHOWING.

Guard:

"No county of the state can present so clear a record as Lane county in criminal matters. The grand juries and circuits courts for several terms past, and the present one is no exception, have had little criminal work to engage their attention. And what has been brought before them is of a petty nature. Home seekers should make a note of this. The criminal calendar of our court is hardly worthy of the name."

When we take into consideration that but four counties of the state surpass this in wealth and population, and that while a report issued a short time ago showed 319 prisoners in the penitentiary, but four of them were from our county this indeed makes a good showing for Lane as a desirable place to reside.

Edw. T. Your Shows With Cascarets Candy Cathartic, cure constipation forever.

## GIRLS WHO SHAM PIETY.

They Use the Church as a Stepping-Stone to Society.

Ruth Ashmore, writing of the "Shams of the Modern Girl," in the October Ladies' Home Journal, and of the "sham that is worse than all others—the religious sham," says: She is the one who is conspicuous in speech and sometimes in work; but in her heart her religion is simply a means to a very earthly end. She is prominent in the Sunday-school, because she thinks she can in that way become acquainted with some people she would like to know. She is ever ready to get up and express her creed at the prayer-meeting, because she thinks that her ability will be recognized. She rustles into her pew, kneels for a long time, and then settles herself comfortably—to look at the congregation. She considers it respectable to go to church. Beyond that she gives no thought. She forgets that, unless religion is of the heart, it is of no value. She has never understood that it is not the loud prayer, nor the wordy prayer which makes an impression on God, but that is the sincere cry from the soul appealing to Him to which He listens. The religious sham car usually give you a description of all the costumes worn by 'her set' in church. She can tell you of the amount of money put in by each member as the plate is passed along. She goes to church to observe the outward, visible sign, and never, in any way, troubles herself about the inward, spiritual grace."

## PUBLIC LANDS IN OREGON.

The surveyor-general of Oregon, in his report to the commissioner, has the following to say regarding the lands in that state:

"The unsurveyed lands in this state are increasing in value each year, and in the same ratio the number of petitions and inquiries, both personal and written, concerning the survey and opening up of these lands become more frequent. Many petitions and letters of inquiry come from parties who have lived on unsurveyed lands for 10 to 20 years, asking and hoping for early surveys in order to obtain titles to their lands and homes. It has been found that, after clearing the mountainous and timbered lands in this district, where the soil is of the usual copper-colored loam, and not too rocky, the richest and most productive grades of agricultural lands have been developed.

The general contour of the lands in Oregon is such as to favor irrigation, which would convert the large semi-arid tracts now used almost exclusively for grazing, when at all, into fertile and productive farms. The estimate of \$79,500 for the survey of 50 townships is very low, considering the number of applications coming from all parts of the state, and also that the apportionment of the appropriation for surveys in Oregon has been very modest during the past few years. I have also made an estimate of \$79,500 for the survey of 50 townships within railroad grants. The railroads and settlers have both made endeavors to have such surveys made to enable the immediate settlement upon thousands of acres of fine timber and agricultural lands."

## CONCERNING HEALTH.

Some sound advice is given in a recent editorial article in the The British Medical Journal, which gains weight by coming from so eminent an authority. The article begins by protesting with vigor against the use of ices and iced drinks when over heated. It calls attention to the fact that men offend more than women against this physiological law, and claims that self-control in the matter of eating ices and drinking cold drinks would reduce the amount of discomfort from heat vastly more than does the gratifying of thirst, which is the result of want of fluid in the blood. It advises slow drinking, and points out the fact that a pint of cold liquid can be taken into the stomach and less than one ounce absorbed by the blood, which is the seat of thirst, so to speak. In the matter of clothing, it calls attention to the need of changing clothing damp from perspiration at the earliest possible minute. No matter what the texture, damp clothing is the forerunner of bronchitis and rheumatism. Athletics demand a more general knowledge of the way to clothe and feed the body during periods of violent exercise. Certainly physical shocks must undo any benefits which may accrue from exercise. The difficulty is that our tendency is to consider but one thing at a time, and not to see the relation of that to the whole of life. The end of life is not muscular development, but a body adapted to the needs for which it

## WHERE LABOR IS CHEAP.

American Economist:

Wages in Japan were 33 per cent. higher in 1894 than in 1873, and as the effect of the war with China was to raise prices it is safe to assume that an advance of fully 30 per cent. has taken place in the past two or three years. But the cost of subsistence in Japan has increased far more rapidly than wages, largely on account of the decline in the value of silver and the depreciation in its purchasing power. Therefore the lot of the Japanese artisan is not a happy one. He has the misfortune to live in a country where labor is so cheap so as to bar out foreign competition in all lines of manufactures that can be produced at home. This is an ideal free-trade condition.

We are not accurately advised as to the present rate of wages of mechanics in Japan, but even if it be allowed that the workingman of that country now earns double what he did twenty-five years ago, his wages are not one-quarter of those of the mechanics of the United States.

Some idea of the enormous disproportion between the rate of wages paid in Japan and in America may be gained from an incident that occurred at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia in 1876. Among the objects of interest exhibited in the Japanese section was a bedstead of extraordinary beauty and richness of detail. The material was boxwood, including the canopied top, and every inch of the exterior surface was carved in low relief giving representations of hunting scenes, birds, beasts, dragons, serpents, flowers, foliage, etc. A gentleman well versed in carving and wood working hazarded the observation: "It must have taken the labor of ten men for five years to produce that result."

A Japanese official in charge of the exhibit overheard the remark, and, with a polite bow to the visitor, said: "You are very near the mark, sir, in your guess. It is a fact that five men were engaged between nine and ten years in carving this bedstead."

The selling price set upon the article was \$2,500. A little arithmetic brings the conclusion that each of the skilled Japanese workmen who executed that masterpiece of carving received in wages a sum not exceeding \$50 per year, or about 16 cents per day. The same grade of skill in America would readily command at least \$5 per day, or more than thirty times the wages paid in Japan.

The American workingman has found out that under the free-trade the products of Japanese labor, shipped to this country in a foreign vessel and delivered to their destination over a railroad built and owned by a foreign government, can be sold at a price far below the cost of producing similar articles in America; and he has accordingly made up his mind that a common sense way is to impose upon all such products of cheap labor a tariff that will equal the difference in wages, and to levy an additional duty if the goods are transported in foreign ships or railroad cars. The first part of this policy is now in force; the latter part will doubtless receive attention at the coming session of congress.

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## IS IT JUST?

W. C. & P. S. Lumberman:

Some advanced thought on the question of paying cash for damages for injuries sustained by employes is worthy of consideration by all manufacturers. The query is, can a money value be placed on death, or should a manufacturer be responsible for injuries caused by any employe? To illustrate, two men are working on the live rolls in a saw mill. One man starts the live rolls without warning and injures the other man by running a slab into him. This is not a suppositious case, but one that will soon be brought before an Oregon jury. How, by any right conception of justice, can the mill owner be made to pay these damages? If the first workman is to blame he is guilty of manslaughter and should be punished for that crime. If an employe is killed by the careless acts of another, that one should be punished for murder. When the consideration of how a cash value can be placed on death is taken up the question grows stronger in favor of the employer. A small child was run over in California by a street car and killed. The first trial gave the parents \$6,000 damages. On the appeal the court said this was too much, that the child being the son of a plumber would naturally follow that calling in later life and would not be worth so much to the parents. That ruling appears heartless, but the suit brought by the parents must be classed as a mercenary act. Certainly their grief could not be lessened by any amount of money.

## Literary.

(ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.)

The law is a gun, which if it misses a pigeon always kills a crow; if it does not strike the guilty it hits some one else. As every crime creates a law, so in turn every law creates a crime.

Learning maketh young men temperate, is the comfort of old age, standing for wealth with poverty and serving as an ornament to riches. With us law is nothing unless close behind it stands a warm living public opinion. Let that die or grow indifferent, and statutes are waste paper, lacking all executive force.

## MAPLETON NEWS.

By A Reader.

Rain, rain, rain is the order of the day.

Mr. Wisdom has rented Mr. Young's place.

Mr. Camp had the misfortune to run a nail through his foot.

Owls are making themselves known in the Mapleton precinct.

Miss Yuba Huston started for her home on last Friday's stage.

Mr. A. P. Knowles arrived with Mr. and Mrs. Blackman and daughter, at Mapleton last Saturday evening.

## ADDITIONAL LOCALS.

The San Francisco Examiner and the West for one year \$2.50 paid in advance.

Ion. A. D. Burton member from Lane county of the legislature in 1882 died of heart disease at Springfield last week.

Three hobos in the Eugene jail were placed on a bread-and-water diet, because they would not work. They pretend to be enjoying it, and say that they will starve before they do a lick of work.

Guard: Judge Fullerton adjourned circuit court Nov. 4th until Thursday, Jan. 20th, 1898. He discharged all the jurymen excepting J. L. Zeigler, who is ordered to report at that date. This looks as if some jury work was expected.

Commissioner Hermann of the general land office, will recommend in his annual report the creation of a forestry police to patrol the timber lands reserved by the executive order of President Cleveland on the eve of his retirement from office. A force of 200 policemen is deemed adequate by the commissioner, involving an annual expenditure of \$170,000, which would be a small outlay considering the vast benefit that would accrue to the nation from an efficient police and the prevention of devastating fires.

Astorian: The lumber industry shows a decided improvement in prices lately. For the last four years prices in every branch of the business has fallen so low as to make it entirely unprofitable. The Sound country, which was first to show the improvement in prices, had suffered immensely from the depression in every branch of business. Logs went up from \$4 to \$6 per thousand and shingles, which varied in price for some years, from 80 cents to \$1 per thousand, now sell from a \$1.80 to \$2 per thousand, and are in steady demand at that figure. The shingle mills tributary to the Columbia river especially those on the Oregon side, that once did a thriving business but had been lying idle for the past five or six years are now running to their full capacity. The shingle mills around Clatskanie, of which there are several, are now nearly all running for the first time in a good many years.

Oregonian: None named the big Oregon apple in the east but to praise. It is welcomed in the Chicago market as among the finest received, both in appearance and flavor. The principal varieties from Oregon on which this state will make a reputation are, according to the Chicago reports, Jonathans, pippins and Spitzbergs. The regulation package for all western points of this character is the 40-pound box. A consignment of these apples was received by a Chicago State-street house this week, which breaks the record in some respects. Several of the boxes were made up of pippins averaging 1 1/2 lbs.—about the size of an ordinary cocoonut. A peculiarity of this fruit, from an eastern point of view, is that the prodigious size is not secured at the expense of flavor or texture. There is now more of this western fruit on the Chicago market than ever before, and the trade reports a steadily increasing demand for it, although ruling prices for it are higher than for other varieties.

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