

RESTRICT THE IMMIGRATION.

Tacoma Ledger.

Preliminary meetings are being held in some eastern cities to perfect organized opposition to the Lodge immigration bill. It is a noticeable fact that the opposition, so far as names of organization or individuals are given, is almost entirely composed of men of foreign birth or origin; many of the German societies in this country being in the forefront. The only reason given for the opposition is that the bill, if it becomes a law, will shut out from this country immigrants who might become good citizens, and that it also reflects upon the people of foreign birth now in this country. There is more sentiment than reason in the latter statement, for those foreigners in this country who have become good citizens or industrious, law abiding people, have all the privileges of the native born American, save that of being eligible to the presidency. These foreign born citizens know, however, that the large cities of this land are filled with undesirable people, the scum of foreign cities and slums, who are a curse to any community or country, and many of whom were either deported by the authorities or their coming aided.

American labor has been cheapened by the hordes of ignorant men that have been imported from foreign countries, to replace workmen in mines and other large works, at lower rate of wages. These ignorant masses are not only a menace to society but they are the vehicle by which wages are kept down and intelligent labor has become a drug on the market.

Senator Lodge's bill contains nothing that will prevent the coming of those classes that will make industrious, self-supporting and desirable citizens. The immigrant must be able to read five lines of the constitution of the United States, printed in his own language, and possess something to guarantee that he will not immediately become a public charge for his maintenance.

The "labor problem," which has been discussed for years, with questions of shorter hours to increase the numbers to be employed, will be carried nearer to the point of successful solution by the adoption of the law restricting immigration, than by any other measure yet proposed. With the rapid growth of industries and the spread of agricultural pursuits in this country, there will soon be employment for every man who desires to work. The congestion in the large cities will be relieved, and the people of the nation will be benefited if the heretofore enormous influx of ignorant criminals and paupers is stopped.

In many states of the union the education of children is compulsory; if education is necessary for the American youth, who lives in the country twenty-one years before he can exercise the rights of citizenship, why not more necessary for the immigrant who can take the preliminary steps towards citizenship almost as soon as he lays his foot on the ship?

We have attempted to keep out the ignorant Chinamen, why not the ignorant and criminal from other nations.

THE STATISTICS of lynching in the United States indicates that this reprehensible crime continues to flourish in spite of the well-meant efforts in some parts of the country to stamp it out. The whole number of lynchings for the year amounted to 186, against 131 in 1896. Of those occurring during the last year 146 were in the south and 20 in the northern states, 122 of the victims being negroes, 39 whites, and 5 Indians.

GEN. COMBON is looming up as a candidate for the democratic nomination for governor. If nominated the general would make a stubborn fight. Several of the newspapers of his "persuasion" are advocating his candidacy. Pennycuik and his "push" are against the old soldier.—Roseburg Plaindealer.

It is generally understood that Hon. T. T. Geer will be a candidate for the nomination for governor. If so he will have quite a number of friends in this neck of the woods, and will make a good run if nominated.—Roseburg Plaindealer.

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RUSSIA'S BOLD STROKE.

Sunday Welcome.

The British squadron in the east was not ordered to the coast which witnessed the piratical exploit of the German emperor, but suddenly appeared at Fort Hamilton island, off the Korean coast, accompanied by a detachment of the Japanese fleet. This was primarily due to the dismissal of McLeavy Brown, an Englishman, and the substitution of M. Alexieff, a Russian, as financial adviser of the Korean government. Brown was bringing financial order out of chaos in Korea, but this was not to Russia's liking. Her policy is to work for disintegration and decadence of neighboring states. But this change was accompanied by one still more important, an agreement between the Korean minister of foreign affairs and the Russian envoy, whereby Russia was practically put in complete control of the Korean government. There are many details in this precious document, but the substance of all is as above stated. This bold stroke of Russia for supremacy at Seoul was well-timed. Japan was in the throes of a parliamentary crisis. England was taken by surprise. All Europe was watching the antics of the German emperor. Not long ago Under-Secretary Curzon declared in the house of commons that Great Britain should "see that Korea should not be territorially or administratively absorbed by Russia, and that Korean harbors be not made bases of schemes for aggrandizement so as to disturb the balance of power in the far east, and give no one power supremacy in the eastern seas." Yet this is just what Russia, by a single, bold compelling stroke, has done. All of which indicates that if there is to be a great conflict in the east, Korea and its surrounding waters will be the storm-center. Russia on one side and England, supported by Japan, on the other will be the great contending forces.

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NECESSITIES ARE COSTLY IN PARIS.

"Water is the most precious and exclusive drink you can order in Paris," writes Lillian Bell in a letter from the French capital to the January Ladies' Home Journal. "Imagine that—you who let the water run to cool it! In Paris they actually pay for water in their houses by the quart. Artichokes, and truffles, and mushrooms, and silk stockings, and kid gloves are so cheap here that it makes you blink your eyes. But eggs and cream, and milk are luxuries. Silks and velvets are bewilderingly expensive. But cotton stuffs are from America, and are extravagances. They make them up into 'costumes,' and trim them with velvet ribbon. Never by any chance could you be supposed to send cotton frocks to be washed every week. The luxury of fresh, starched muslin dresses and plenty of shirtwaists is unknown.

"I never shall overcome the ecstasies of laughter which assail me when I see varieties of coal exhibited in tiny shop windows, set forth in high glass dishes, as we exploit chocolates at home. But well they may respect it, for it is really very much cheaper to freeze to death than to buy coal in Paris. The reason of all this is the city tax on every chicken, every carrot, every egg brought into Paris. Every mouthful of food is taxed. This produces an enormous revenue, and this is why the streets are so clean; it is why the asphalt is as smooth as a ballroom floor; it is why the whole of Paris is as beautiful as a dream."

HEMLOCK LANDS in the eastern states are steadily advancing in value, as the lumber and bark demand increases. The time is not far off when the tanners of the east will have to come to the Pacific Northwest for their bark. In the meantime the lumbermen should endeavor to introduce the wood as an interior finish. The grain is beautiful and the wood takes an exceedingly fine finish. In fact, the Pacific Northwest hemlock, in the estimation of many, is the finest finish wood on the coast.—Pacific Lumber Trade Journal

LANE COUNTY should have the next republican congressional convention. This for two reasons: It is our turn, and we elected the last congressman. Our 814 plurality decided that Thomas H. Tongue, republican, and not W. S. Vanderburg, populist, should represent the first congressional district of Oregon. Our claim is a just one. We are the banner congressional county.—Register.

ENGLAND AND OUR NAVY.

S. F. Chronicle.

The London Times is pessimistic and scarcely intelligent in its views of the American naval program. "The desire for a strong navy," it says, "finds its excuse in Cuba and Hawaii, but the more serious advocates of the new policy make no secret that it is against England, and not Spain or Japan, that the main effort is to be directed."

We beg to differ. The naval plan now being worked out originated during Secretary Chandler's control of the navy department, in 1882, when there were no differences with England, and years before either Cuba or Hawaii had become objects of marked solicitude to the United States. Both the motive and excuse mentioned by the Times were lacking. It was decided, as a measure of peace to add about seventy modern ships to the old fleet then rotting with age at the yards or cumbering the ports of foreign countries. Since that time the program has been closely adhered to. It is a notable fact, which the Times fails to observe, that since the scaling controversy, arose and Cuban and Hawaiian affairs grew troublesome, the navy building policy has actually faltered. In his last annual report the secretary of the navy recommended an appropriation for but one battle-ship, his impotency being for dry docks. We are a long way from having designs on England when one battle-ship suffices a naval program for a year. At that rate the original vessels of the white squadron would be worn out long before the fleet had grown offensively formidable.

All the United States wants of a navy is embraced in its desire to guarantee its own peace, not to interfere with the peace of other countries. We want safety. What comes of wealth and defenselessness is now being shown in the fortunes of China, and has always been well understood by our statesmen. We need a navy to keep the predatory powers at bay, so that our territory and that which we protect under the Monroe doctrine may be held inviolate and so that such hostile utterances as those of the Austrian Prime Minister may not crystallize into overt acts. This is all. Our navy is a police force; not a fleet of corsairs bent upon intrusion and forced levies. If it were of the latter class, and the British empire its objective, does the Times suppose the building would stop at seventy or eighty vessels, mostly unarmored cruisers? Far from it. We should have fifty battle-ships to begin with and 100,000 seamen to man the entire navy. Nothing less would do for an offensive war with a naval power the strength of which equals that of France and Russia combined.

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TWO ENTERPRISING WASH. GIRLS.

In November 1896, says the Klickitat Agriculturist, two girls in the lower portion of Klickitat county invested \$1,840 in a band of sheep, believing that McKinley's election presaged high wool and general good markets. That they were wise is proven by the result of their purchase. During last summer they made two sales of wool and sheep, receiving on one occasion \$1,460 and another \$800. The books in the transaction were closed on Saturday, when the remainder of the band brought to the young ladies in cold cash \$5,220. As will be seen, the net profits approximate \$5,600—which isn't bad for a one-year "dyeer" on an investment of \$1,800. It is perhaps unnecessary to add that these maidens, who, by the way, are as pretty and charming as they are wise, have lost none of their republican ideas, since the closing of the deal.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.

WASH., D. C., Jan. 10th, 1898. Speaker Reed, when it suits his purpose to do so, can play the role of the sphinx in a manner that has never been surpassed by any man in public life. He has been playing it during the turmoil in the house over the question of modifying or repealing the civil service law, and up to this time all attempts to ascertain where he stands have failed. During the warm debate, which began the day congress reassembled and which still continues, he has not said or done anything to indicate which side, if either, he sympathizes with. The statement that the antis were only making a rumpus on the subject for use among their constituents has made them more determined than ever to do something. They have openly told their republican colleagues that if they would not help them to pass a bill modifying the civil service law they would unite with the democrats for the purpose of passing a bill for the repeal of the law. More than one hundred republicans are said to have promised to vote for the bill modifying the civil service law that is to be reported to the house from the committee on civil service, provided that the bill is not more radical than the one introduced last week, which confines the operation of the civil law to offices with salaries from \$900 to \$1,800 a year, and to localities where there are more than 25 employes.

If the present program is carried out the question of the annexation of Hawaii will have the right of way until settled. The treaty was taken up today by the senate, and daily executive sessions are to be held until it is disposed of. There have been, it is believed, enough changes among senators to make the vote in favor of the treaty reach the required two-thirds. But the opponents of annexation are going to make a hard fight, and under the senate rules, they can stretch it out, if they are so disposed. However, they do not talk as confidently of defeating it as they did when congress first met.

Every time the senate deviates from its deliberative custom," said a senator noted for his conservatism, "it does something that would be better left undone." He was referring especially to the resolution adopted without consideration by the senate just previous to the recess, calling upon the members of the cabinet for their opinions of the civil service law and rules. Nobody seems to have paid any attention to the somewhat extraordinary nature of that resolution until the answers began to come in and be read to the senate. Then it dawned upon many senators, especially those who are sticklers for precedent and propriety, that the resolution, asking members of the cabinet to send their opinions to the senate of something that the president had full authority to regulate without additional legislation, was a violation of both. Senator Cockrell, of Missouri, called attention to this and gave notice that he would move to refer all the answers to the president, where they properly belong, and Senator Hoar said apologetically: "It seems to me a most extraordinary proceeding for the senate to direct the head of departments to give their opinions as to the wisdom of the president's order. That is what we have done, inadvertently no doubt. Had my attention been drawn to it I should have moved to rescind the order." While all of the cabinet did not agree as to the extent of the modification of the civil service rules, they all favored modification to some extent.

Senator Marion Butler evidently doubts the wisdom of the makers of the constitution in providing that judges of the U. S. courts should be kept in position during good behavior, and retire on full pay after a certain period of service or in case of physical disability; also the methods of selecting them, as he has offered a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution, providing for the election of all U. S. judges by the people and limiting their terms to eight years. There is little likelihood that this resolution will be considered. Conservative persons have no desire to see U. S. judges wade through the mire of a partisan political campaign. The present system may not be perfect—nothing human is—but it has given us U. S. courts, the decisions of which have, as a rule, served and received the respect of our own people and of those of the entire civilized world.

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Literary.

(ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.)

Memory is what makes us old or young.

Every body drags its shadow and every mind its doubt.

The greatest difficulties lie where we are not looking for them.

Good manners and good morals are sworn friends and firm allies.

Mercy more becomes a magistrate than the vindictive wrath which men call justice.

It is admirable to die the victim of one's faith; it is sad to die the dupe to one's ambition.

Of all the faculties of the mind memory is the first that flourishes and the last that dies.

We hate some persons because we do not know them; and we will not know them because we hate them.

Among the attributes of God, although they are all equal, mercy shines with even more brilliancy than justice.

They are as heaven made them, handsome enough if they be good enough; for handsome is that handsome does.

A boy was once asked what meekness is. He thought for a moment and said, "Meekness gives smooth answers to rough questions."

It is with diseases of the mind as with diseases of the body, we are half dead before we understand our disorder, and half cured when we do.

Meditation is that exercise of the mind by which it recalls a known truth as some kind of creatures do their food, to be ruminated upon till all vicious parts be extracted.

The man that is never happy for the present is so true that all his relief from unhappiness is only forgetting himself for a little while. Life is a progress from want to want, not from enjoyment to enjoyment.

He who is great when he falls is great in his prostration, and is no more an object of contempt than when men tread on the ruins of sacred buildings which men of piety venerate so long as they stand.

The mind is the atmosphere of the soul. The best way to prove the clearness of our mind is by showing its faults; as when a stream discovers the dirt at the bottom, it convulses us of the transparency of the water.

Comport thyself in life as at a banquet. If a plate is offered thee, extend thy hand and take it moderately; if it be withdrawn do not detain it. If it comes not to thy side, make not thy desire loudly known, but wait patiently till it be offered thee.

Undoubtedly the good fame of every man ought to be under the protection of the laws, as well as his life, liberty and property. Good fame is an outlook that defends them all and renders them all valuable. The law forbids you to revenge; when it ties up the hands of some, it ought to restrain the tongues of others.

Suppose we put a tax upon learning? Learning, it is true is a useless commodity, but I think we had better lay it on ignorance; for learning being the property of a very few, and those poor ones too, I am afraid we can get little among them, whereas ignorance will take in most of the great fortunes in the kingdom.

If the true spark of religious and civil liberty be kindled, it will burn. Human agency cannot extinguish it. Like the earth's central fire, it may be smothered for a time; the ocean may overwhelm it; mountains may press it down; but its inherent and unconquerable force will heave both the ocean and the land, and at some time or another, in some place or another, the volcano will break out and flame to heaven.

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PROPRIETOR

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