

Murder Most Foul.

It is and ought to be a source of wonder in the nineteenth century how much of the brute, of the ferocious, untamable, bloodthirsty carnivore there remains in certain specimens of the human race. It is a source of regret that the miserable existence of such loathsome wretches cannot be terminated before instead of after they have committed the crime which shocks the world and brands them with the everlasting brand of Cain. That any failure, however, or even unwarranted delay of justice should ensue upon the commission of any one of the brutal murders that have recently taken place in Oregon or California is a source of disgrace to the United States and astonishment to the civilized world. The atrocious murder which took place in Independence, Polk county, on the morning of Sunday the 29th ult., makes a climax to a series of bloody deeds which have occurred in that county within a period of considerably less than one year. In this last grand climacteric of carnage, committed for no object except one which suggests the existence of a crime if possible more heinous than the very spilling of the life-blood itself, the actual commission of the murder is thus described by the Salem Statesman:

Sunday morning, shortly after dawn, the second boy Wilburn was awakened by his father rising from the bed and putting on his pants and coat, for the purpose, as he thought, of building the fire. The boy again went to sleep, and the next minute the entire household was startled from their slumbers by a most thrilling shriek, proceeding from the room of the girls. Horrified, the mother and two boys, Willis and Wilburn, jumped from their beds and rushed to the door of the apartment from which the sound emanated, and there a spectacle that congealed the very blood in their veins burst upon their terrified vision. Sympie was straggling desperately in the grasp of her father, who held her tightly in his left arm, partially raised from the bed, and with a long knife, clasped in his right hand, rained down upon her defenseless person a series of terrible blows, almost every one of which penetrated some part of her body or her head. The devoted mother, entirely oblivious of danger to herself and mindful only of the safety of her daughter, rushed forward to intervene between the murderer and his victim, and prevent, if she could, the consummation of his atrocious purpose. The boy Willis was hardly behind her, and he seized the forearm of his inhuman father with a grasp of despair. The wretch's attention was diverted from his poor victim, who now lay in her mother's arms, literally bathed in her own life's blood, to the youth clinging to his arm with a grip like death, and he devoted his energies to trying to shake him off.

Meanwhile the second brother, Wilburn, had not been a helpless onlooker. While his brother and father were engaged in their frenzied struggle at the side of the bed of his expiring sister, he grasped a double-barreled shotgun lying near and awaited his chance to pour its contents into his unnatural parent, should it become necessary. The rapidly shifting positions of brother and father gave him no opportunity nor occasion to fire the weapon. Shortly Landreth broke away and started rapidly for the rear door, still holding the knife in his hand. Willis hastily disarmed his younger brother, who is thirteen, and started in pursuit of his father, who when he fled through the rear door, threw the knife aside and started for the slough, about fifty feet distant.

It appears that the step-father, whose name is Landreth, is the father of seven children, and the victim, the daughter of his wife by a previous marriage, between whom and the murderous step-father im-

proper relations are supposed to have existed, resided in the hell above ground which housed the murderer's polluted body. We shall not nauseate our readers by dwelling longer upon this fearful crime. Enough to say that the perpetrator, after a couple of unsuccessful attempts at suicide, was safely lodged in Marion county jail, whence if there be justice in Oregon he will proceed only to the gallows, where, his career of crime, if it cannot be expiated, will at least be consummated.

A Light-House for the Coquille.

A bill "for the establishment of a light-house at the mouth of the Coquille river, in the state of Oregon, at a cost not exceeding forty thousand dollars," has been introduced in the House of Representatives by Hon. Binger Hermann. No two opinions can be entertained by those who have any conception at all of the merits of this measure. That it is a necessary and beneficial action is at once apparent. The many improvements being made at the Coquille bar, which will ere long render the river navigable for a much larger class of ocean-going vessels than at present enter its channel, render this step imperative. The dangers of nocturnal navigation along a rocky shore, without the aid of a faithful beacon to assist the anxious mariner in taking his bearings, are too apparent to call for any descriptive emphasis from us. The small outlay necessary to afford efficient protection to life and property by the erection of a properly constructed light-house should be the least of all obstacles in the way of the passage of the bill. Our worthy representative has added to his already brilliant record by the introduction of this measure, which is now fairly pointed to a successful issue. The bill has been already "read twice, referred to the committee on commerce, and ordered to be printed." We sincerely trust that Mr. Hermann will not experience any trouble in pushing this welcome measure of improvement through both Houses, and hastening its object to a speedy completion.

A Word to the Patrons and Others Interested in our School.

Now, that we have received our new helps for the school, such as history and geography cards, 1001 Questions on History, Methods of Spelling by Diacritical Marks, the Normal Method of Parsing, Governments of the World, Queer Queries, and other helps too numerous to mention, we notice a greater interest among our pupils and we desire all who are interested in the school, especially the patrons and members of the school board to visit us, and give us the pleasure of their approval or a knowledge of their disapproval of our efforts. We are sure the children as well as ourselves will be encouraged by such attentions from our friends.

Respectfully, Teachers. Coquille City, Ore.

How many spots did Lodi have in the measles? He has evidently broken out all over in this edition of the HERALD. We hadn't heard from him for quite awhile and were beginning to feel despondent. Our typo suggests that were Lodi to become afflicted with the smallpox, he would supply our columns with a twelve months supply of funny matter, and would lay up a pile of volubility which would put the venerable Bancroft in the shade. Don't indulge in vaccination yet awhile, Lodi.

Sacramento, Cal., Feb. 6.—A fearful collision occurred on the Central Pacific railroad at Gold Run, Placer county, this morning. A west bound passenger train striking an east bound freight demolished four locomotives crushing a fireman named Walker to death and the engineers Hoodley and O'Meara were slightly injured. The mail, baggage and express cars and a number of freight cars were badly wrecked.

For Sale.

160 ACRES of spruce, fir and other timber, that is given up to be the best on the Coquille river, situated in easy access to tide water on Seven Mile slough, for sale by M. L. Handelman, Randolph, Oregon. Price \$1,600.

Fire on Front Street.

When M. Liber in his Astronomer-General's prophecy foretold at the commencement of the year that the Fire-King would not be idle during this eventful year, perhaps he did not realize that some ruthless incendiary would proceed in the forepart of the second month to kindle quite a bonfire in a store situated on the principal street of Coquille City, with a view to the destruction of said store and other business houses in its vicinity, and the possible holocaust of some innocent sleeper. It is perfectly chimerical for anyone to indulge in the idea that the fire which consumed Johnson & Drane's meat-shop in this town during the small hours of last Wednesday morning was the result of accident, for it undoubtedly proceeded from the deliberate crime of some midnight marauder. The flames originated in the northwest corner of the building and no fire had been kept in the meat-shop since December last. An unextinguished lamp could not have caused the conflagration, for those who discovered the fire removed every lamp in the establishment and all of them had been properly extinguished. Neither Will 'o-the-wisp nor electricity had any part in the transaction, so that we are forced to the conclusion that human hands, and very nefarious hands at that, set fire to the building. The rats and matches theory is too patent and ancient a delusion to call for a more copious remark than "chestnuts!" Between 2 and 3 a. m. on Wednesday Mrs. Harrison was aroused by a bright light shining into her apartment in the Olive hotel and recognizing the cause, awakened her husband who immediately gave the alarm of fire. About the same time Mr. Hubbard who sleeps immediately behind the scene of conflagration, and was in consequence one of the first to perceive it, was endeavoring to awaken the denizens of the street on the outside. However it happened, at any rate, only a few minutes elapsed from the time the fire was first discovered until the street was thronged with townspeople and nearly all of our inhabitants were thoroughly on the alert. At first sight it seemed hardly possible to save the Olive hotel. The burning mass was separated from that structure by only a narrow passage, the heat was increasing every moment and things looked as if the miserable miscreant who applied the torch was about to be successful in his or her criminal designs. All the hose available however was immediately attached to the pipes of the city water works and three strong jets of water began to play upon the fire with evident effect. Seeing that it was impossible to save the house which was already on fire, most of the efforts were now directed towards preserving the Olive hotel. That the seemingly bolders at tempt to save the building met with ultimate success was mainly owing to the persistent and unremitting efforts of Charley Olive, N. Lorenz, John Lawrence, Doc Dean, Pike Maury, Charley Moon, Noah Leneve and others, who, undeterred by heat and smoke, battled with the fiery element and finally drove it from its prey. The side of the hotel which was next the flames was protected from the intense heat by a number of blankets, which had been thoroughly soaked with water, being hung up in front of the scorching woodwork. At this period an ill-advised move was made on the part of some bungler to throw down the remaining side-wall of the burning house which was on the side of the Olive hotel and if this had been carried out it is probable that one of the finest hotels in Oregon would have been laid in ashes. Better counsels, however, prevailed and by steady exertions the threatened building was saved from destruction. Shortly after 4 a. m. all danger had subsided, and the deserving workers thankfully departed to their homes. It is hardly likely that the miscreant who caused all this worry and trouble and came well nigh causing a much greater amount of

miserly will be discovered although it would be a most desirable consummation of the affair, but it is to be hoped that the future history of Coquille City will never again be stained by such a dastardly attempt at diabolical outrage.

On the Antelope—Some Reflections.

Oh! had some power the little girls. To see counsel's as others see us.—Burns. They that live in glass houses should never throw stones.—Proverbs. Know thyself.—Inscription upon the door of heathen Temple.

He that disregards the principle of the above maxims will often make himself appear supremely ridiculous. No man has a right to judge of another from his own standpoint; or from any other, except that which the man himself occupies. It is amusing to hear an old bachelor telling parents how to raise children. I have heard people who, perhaps had never done a days work on a farm, giving our Coquille farmers "fits" for not stopping to consider the immense amount of work and expense required in opening up a farm in this rich valley of such luxuriant growth; and that most of the ranchers have to "work out" one-third of the time. We often hear persons "cussin" the doctor when they had failed to carry out one of his half dozen directions. There is the poor teacher, it's a wonder all the meat is not picked off his bones. No one has a harder time than the teacher, if he does his whole duty. Teaching is no child's play. And the preacher comes in for his full share of merciless criticism and foul innuendo. Of course the parson has a good time, although he has to look after his family and try to be a help to everybody else within the bounds of his charge or he is an unfaithful shepherd. Of course it doesn't take any time and money to travel all over the country and take the gospel to every man's door. We must not forget the merchant. Of course they are rascals to a man, especially if they ever do any credit business. You see, about one-fourth of the things charged on the bill were never bought, because they had been used up and the purchaser had forgotten he ever had them. Now, as to the editor, well, it is a wonder that he has the courage to show his head on the street. We will stop now and perhaps will pursue these reflections at some future time.

Justice to All.

Travel Blocked by the Storm.

The following extract we take from the Trinity Journal: The recent heavy storms have done a great deal of damage to the railroads; the up country trains are not running on schedule time and carry no express past Redding. The Oregon & California line has suffered severely; it is estimated that 100 miles of the road between Ashland and Redding is covered by slides and caves. The last Oregon express from Ashland entered tunnel No. 11 and coming to the end was stopped by a cave; on trying to back out it was found that the other end of the tunnel had caved in the meantime, so the train is shut up in the tunnel. The San Francisco express to Portland passed through tunnel No. 12 and coming to tunnel No. 11, found that effectually closed and, attempting to back out, found tunnel No. 12 had caved in behind it, so that train is also bottled up. Fortunately the accidents were followed by no loss of life. It being impossible to run from Redding to Ashland by rail, the R. R. company have put on stages to run from Delta to Ashland. At present it is impossible to estimate when the line will be opened.

From Whitney & O'Connell.

We take this means of saying to the people of Coquille City and vicinity, that for a long time we have been engaged in the hardware business amongst you. On Wednesday the 1st inst., our entire hardware business, and property at Coquille City, we sold to J. A. Collier, of that place. The thorough-going, honest business reputation that our successor bears needs no mention by us. However, after thanking you for the long and liberal patronage that you have given us, we earnestly recommend the same to our successor, and remain, Very truly yours, Whitney & O'Connell

Kansas City, Feb. 6.—The conference which is to be held in Kansas City on February 8, concerning the opening of Indian Territory for settlement has attracted wide attention and the general interest manifested has been so great that the committee which has the matter in charge concluded to make the invitation general. The purpose of the conference is to devise and discuss legal means to accomplish the opening of Indian Territory to settlement.

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Notice is hereby given that the undersigned have been appointed executors of the last will and testament of John Root, deceased, by an order of the County Court of Coos County, Oregon, made on the 2nd day of January 1888. Now therefore all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same to the undersigned properly verified as by law required, at the residence of the late John Root near Arago, in Coos County, Oregon, within six months from this date, to-wit: Susanah Root, Daniel Root, Uriah Root. Executors of the will of John Root, deceased. Dated this 10th day of January, 1888.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION. Land Office at Roseburg, Oregon, January 21, 1888.

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the Clerk of the County Court of Coos County, Oregon, at Empire City, Or., on Thursday, March 22, 1888, viz: Casimir J. Stiennon, Pre-emption D. S. No. 2170 for the W. 1/2 of S. W. 1/4, Sec. 14, Tp. 27, S. R. 12 West W. M.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of said land, viz: Geo. W. Norris, Thomas Norris, John L. Barker, of Fairview, Coos Co., Or. Hiram Betts. Chas. W. Johnston, Register.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION. Land Office at Roseburg, Oregon, January 19, 1888.

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the Judge or Clerk of the County Court of Coos County, Oregon, at Empire City, Or., on Saturday February 25, 1888, viz: Daniel Giles, Devisee of the Will of John P. Ragdale deceased, Homestead Entry No. 2870, for the E. 1/2 of S. W. 1/4 and W. 1/2 of S. E. 1/4, Sec. 25, Tp. 20, S. R. 12 West W. M.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of said land, viz: B. F. Harrison, Wm. N. Warner, Calvin Gant, E. B. Robinson, of Myrtle Point, Coos Co., Or. Chas. W. Johnston, Register.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION. Land Office at Roseburg, Oregon, January 16, 1888.

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the Clerk of the County Court of Coos County, Oregon, at Empire City, Or., on Saturday, Feb. 25, 1888, viz: Richard C. Cavet, Pre-emption D. S. No. 5380, for the N. 1/2 of N. E. 1/4 and N. 1/2 of N. W. 1/4, Sec. 23, Tp. 28, S. R. 13 West W. M.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of said land, viz: J. C. Laird, W. P. Boyce, J. L. Roy, of Coquille City, Coos Co., Or. Wm. Morris. Chas. W. Johnston, Register.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION. Land Office at Roseburg, Oregon, January 14, 1888.

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the Clerk of the County Court of Coos County, Oregon, at Empire City, Or., on Saturday, March 3, 1888, viz: George T. Rhodes, Pre-emption D. S. No. 5606 for the N. E. 1/4 of S. E. 1/4, Sec. 10, Tp. 27, S. R. 13 West W. M.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of said land, viz: Wm. H. Noble, Edward Hinkly, Wm. Ward, Neils Rasmussen, of Marshfield, Coos Co., Or. Chas. W. Johnston, Register.

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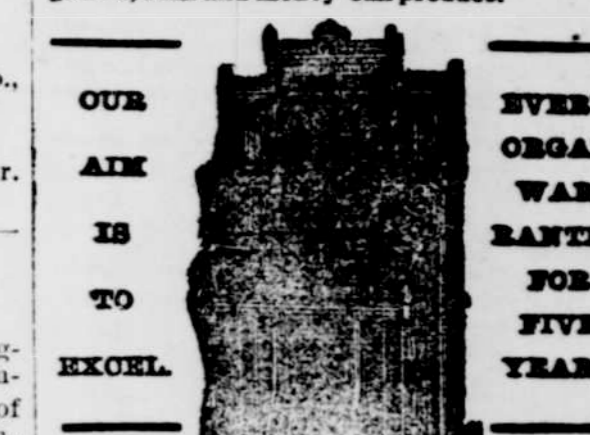
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