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THE INDEPENDENT

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will furnish fuel for one stove for a year.
In the case of Schwal vs. Ripley, the Supreme court of Minnesota lately decided that, since a deed is not executed until delivery, if a deed is signed and sealed on Sunday and is not delivered until a succeeding secular day, it is valid.

The unpleasant discovery has been made that the bones that have been shipped recently from Cairo to England for fertilizing purposes and which were supposed to be those of giraffes, antelopes, etc., are many of them, the bones of English soldiers killed in Egypt, the natives having followed the terrible practice of digging on battle-fields and pulling the bodies from trenches.

It is claimed that the dominion of Canada awarded a contract to build a bridge over the Frazer river on the Canadian Pacific, at \$1,500,000 to contractor Ouderloek, who sublet the work to a contracting firm for \$400,000, which in turn let the job to another contractor for \$100,000 who let it for \$75,000, at which figure the bridge was built.

A device has been patented to keep the shell of an oyster closed from the time it is captured until it is opened and set before an epicure 1000 miles away. It is a simple piece of wire twisted around the oyster shell with a pair of pinners and then sealed. Close an oyster's mouth and he will preserve himself for weeks—three months in the time claimed. Oysters were recently packed up this way and sent to Denver, where they were opened and found to be of an excellent flavor.

The jury in the case of Mrs. Lulu Johnson vs. the Northern Pacific Railroad company rendered a verdict for \$1000 damages in favor of the plaintiff. The case of Miss Lulu Johnson, daughter of the above named plaintiff, is now on trial for being ejected from the train at Missoula, the conductor claiming that her ticket was not good. The cause of the complaint in the first case is the same as the above.

Gov. Temple has appointed the members of his staff under the provisions of the new militia bill, as follows: Quarter-master-general, with rank of colonel, W. H. Blair, of Monticello; inspector-general, with rank of colonel, A. P. Curry, of Spokane Falls; judge-advocate, with rank of colonel, Elwood Evans, of Tacoma; paymaster-general, with rank of colonel, M. Kaufman, of Tacoma; surgeon-general, with rank of colonel, J. Randolph Smith, of Vancouver; chief of ordnance, with rank of colonel, John H. Sharpstein, of Walla Walla; aide-de-camp, with rank of lieutenant colonel, James Hamilton Lewis, of Seattle; Gwin Hicks, of Olympia; Vince H. Faben, of Seattle; and Henry Kelling, of Walla Walla; assistant adjutant-general, with rank of major, J. Kennedy Stout, of Spokane Falls.

A youthful applicant for graduation at Lexington, Ky., being asked, the other day, "What does history teach?" answered: "That the United States never has been whipped and never will be."

Secretary of War, Endicott, has recently made a large purchase of army blankets in England. Just the figure for it. American manufacturers are ignored because an Englishman bids 30 cents apiece less than the American, and as the government pays no tariff it thus gets its supplies a trifle cheaper by so doing; but the money goes out of the nation and helps to make the trade balance against us instead of in our favor.

Mr. Kennan gives one a good idea of the enormous size of Siberia by stating in the Century that its territory would contain the United States, including Alaska, with all the states of Europe, except Russia, and there would still be 300,000 square miles to spare.

A tale comes from the far north, above the Arctic circle, that mammoth carcasses are found frozen in the ice and that the Indians chop them out and feed the meat to their dogs. These carcasses are as well preserved as if killed but yesterday, although they have lain for who knows how many thousand years in a solidly frozen state. Undoubtedly these animals existed coeval with the glacial period and were indigenous of a tropical climate, therefore we must reason that this period came on almost instantaneous; all living animals were killed by the extreme cold and before their flesh could putrify, it became frozen and thus it is preserved to us to-day.—Juneau Free Press.

were sold in town this week at 11c,

but most of the wool growers are holding for higher figures. Could our sheepmen get a fair price for their wool this season, Crook county would be in a flourishing condition, but at 11c there is little hope of much money being in circulation until a succeeding secular day, it is valid.

The date of execution for Mrs. M. J. Pyle and John Hurn has been set for Friday, August 3, between the hours of 10 a. m. and 3 p. m. in the court house exercised, Mrs. Pyle will be the first woman hung on the Pacific coast.

During the thunder storm Thursday afternoon a bolt of lightning struck a small barn at the upper end of town and badly splintered the corner posts besides otherwise damaging the building. Miss Annie Hanson, who was standing in the door of her mother's house about 100 yards distant, was struck by the flash and felled to the ground, the blood gushing from her mouth. Mrs. Louis Malone was attracted to the house by the cries of the other children, she found the girl had risen but was gasping for breath, she had been hit in the left shoulder and the left side of her face and head was burned. Dr. Clark was called and took charge of the patient who is now nearly recovered. Mrs. Malone was also shocked and states she never heard the report. Only once before during the life of Dayton has lightning struck within her limits.—Dayton Inlander.

It is in competition only with the cheap labor of India. Convict labor in competition with mechanical trades is prohibited by law in California. The prisoners must be either put to useful and remunerative labor, or rest in idleness at the expense of the state. The jute grain bag factory at San Quentin prison enables this labor to be profitably utilized without encroaching upon mechanical employments and thus labor in a useful way.

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duct. Labor is paid in India in the

manufacture of grain bags, only 15 cents per day. The duty on the imported article is forty per cent. ad valorem. The industry on this coast can be prosecuted only under protection, to meet the competition of the imported goods. This protection works benefit to the farmers as it does to the manufacturers. In California there is a large jute factory in the San Quentin state prison, in which over 500 convicts are employed. The factory is kept running day and night, without cessation. The bags are sold directly to farmers at cost price, or to dealers who sell at only a nominal profit. Comparatively small as the product is, it is enough to prevent importers from working "corners" in bags, and raising the price to exorbitant rates. It maintains a steady market, and protects the farmers from extravagant prices. The convict labor thus employed does not affect free labor in the state. It is in competition only with the cheap labor of India. Convict labor in competition with mechanical trades is prohibited by law in California. The prisoners must be either put to useful and remunerative labor, or rest in idleness at the expense of the state. The jute grain bag factory at San Quentin prison enables this labor to be profitably utilized without encroaching upon mechanical employments and thus labor in a useful way.

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