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*Return*

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good Magazine.

[From the Phrenological Journal.]  
**Southern Inventors.**

In the year 1850—one year preceding  
the war—we visited the Patent Of-  
fice Department in Washington, and we  
were surprised to learn how few among  
the thousands of models received yearly  
came from the South, and how many  
came from the North. We were told  
by the Commissioner that less than ten  
per cent. of the whole number of ap-  
plicants came from the then slave  
States, and of this small number a con-  
siderable proportion were from Northern  
men residing in the South. We put  
this question to the Commissioner:  
"Why is it that Southerners invent so  
little? Have they less constructive-  
ness than Northerners?" To which he  
replied: "No; the one is quite as in-  
genious as the other; but the one is a  
planter and the other a manufacturer.  
The rudest instruments answer the  
purposes of his rude agriculture, while  
the manufacturer needs, and must have  
the best mechanism. Again: there is an  
aristocracy in the south which looks on  
labor as a punishment rather than a  
pleasure, and only those work who  
must." But idea or prejudices passed  
away with the "peculiar institution,"  
and now a different state of things ex-  
ists.

The Patent Office records of the  
present year show a great increase of  
Southern inventions. Instead of the  
seven or eight per cent. of 1850, it has  
now thirty per cent. of the whole cred-  
ited to the former slave States. Is not  
this encouraging? Southern gentlemen  
who had never supposed themselves  
capable of suggesting a mechanical de-  
vice, "take it" as kindly as a natural  
born Connecticut-Yankee clock-maker.  
We hope to chronicle great things in  
this respect now that the best mechan-  
ism is to be used in the South. Aunt  
Ophelia's characteristic expression,  
"Oh how shiftless!" will soon become  
obsolete. Here is a paragraph to the  
point from the *Artisan*:

"The *Plantation*, a Georgia agricul-  
tural journal, in speaking of the  
death of inventions hitherto shown in  
the Southern States, asserts that the  
earth does not hold a more restless, ac-

tive, energetic, thinking man than the  
middle-country Southerner; and that  
they will hereafter produce, in rapid  
succession, inventions of permanent  
utility to man. We are glad to hear  
this from an authority evidently famil-  
iar with the subject spoken of, and in  
the truths expressed thereby lies the  
germ of marvelous promise to the  
South. When the genius of her people  
shall be turned to the utilization of the  
minerals hidden, and as yet almost un-  
sought for, beneath her soil, the timber  
that grows untouched in her forests, and  
the water power that now wastes itself  
in picturesque tumbling over the crags  
of her valleys, it will take but a little  
while to attain a thrift, far nobler in  
itself and more honored by the world,  
than was ever the luxurious but idle  
prosperity of a score of years ago.

"It is especially desirable that the  
work of devising new machinery to  
meet the peculiarities of Southern in-  
dustries should be done by Southern  
men. The inventive skill of Northern  
mechanics can supply devices to fulfill  
any demand with the nature of which  
they are familiar. But the condition  
under which machinery in the region  
referred to must be used are so differ-  
ent from those obtaining in the North-  
ern, Eastern and Western sections of  
the country, that no experience, how-  
ever thorough, gained in these last  
would be of use in elaborating improve-  
ments for use in the other. We believe  
that there is room for hundreds of new  
inventions applicable to agriculture, arts,  
and manufactures in the Southern  
States, and the sooner they are produced  
by the energy and talent of the people  
thereof, the better will it be."

**DIDNT UNDERSTAND THE LAN-  
GUAGE.**

THE EDITOR OF THE "BALD EAGLE CLARION"  
STAYS ALL NIGHT AT THE "ISE HOUSE" ON  
BENT RIVER IN EASTERN OREGON.

Now I own to being an innocent man,  
and pride myself upon my good be-  
havior, and I did think that all Ameri-  
cans spoke the same language. I was  
mistaken, as will be seen. I rode up  
to the door, when the following sign  
met my view: "Ise House and other  
things;" very bad grammar, I said,  
mentally inquiring what the "other  
things" might be. I called, when a  
scraggy, beetle-browed specimen of the  
*genus homo* made his advent at the door,  
when I inquired could I stay all night?  
"Ease your beast of your filthy car-  
cass, and get inside and hang your-  
self on the first peg you see." My  
dear sir, said I, I do not desire to com-  
mit suicide at present. "Git out,"  
said he, turning to take care of my  
mule. I went in; there were several  
in the room. Presently the landlord  
returned, when supper was announced.  
"Would you strangle a little hash?"  
said he. I am not of a vicious turn,  
sir; I am a man of peace. "But would  
you not put something in the way of  
trunk in your gizzard?" said he. Oh,  
said I, seeing that all the rest of the  
company had bolted for the table, I  
don't care if I have a little supper.  
"That's it," said he, "I thought you  
was wolfish." Supper being over, I  
enquired where I would sleep. "You  
can roost with Puddin' head William;  
or, in plain language, Mush-head Bill,  
first room to the left, up stairs," said  
the landlord, looking up from a game of  
Poker. I went up a very rickety lad-  
der, came to the door designated, opened  
the door and was greeted by an awful  
groan, and a voice said, "who are you;  
what the d—l do you want here?" I  
own to being a little shocked, and  
thinking it was more than likely that I  
had got into a private lunatic asylum,  
I replied: I, sir, am Mr. Quilldriver,  
at your service, I suppose you are  
the Hon. Soup-headed William, (I had  
forgot the name partly), I am profoundly  
happy to make thy august acquaintance;  
could I in any way advance your inter-  
ests through the influence of the *Clari-  
on*? Supposing, of course, to receive  
a small consideration for services ac-  
tually rendered. Personal notices in-  
serted speaking favorably of you or  
your occupation, twenty-five cents per  
line; dirt cheap, sir, considering the  
unparalleled circulation. "Now, look  
ye," said William I'm busted if I take  
any more of your abuse. Plant your-  
self." But, I sir, wish a part of the bed,  
said I. "Sail in," replied William.  
Sir, said I, I am already in, and I am  
loath to confess that I do not exactly  
understand the manly art of sailing, al-  
though I have unbanded sympathy  
with the arduous duties of a sailor. I  
sir have never been on the raging main.  
"What the devil do you mean?" said  
William. I mean, sir, that I want part  
of this bed. "Muzzle it, then, and be  
d—d to you, and shut up your in-  
fernal fly-trap, I want to sleep." Sir,  
said I, I have no muzzle, and the bed

is not a dangerous thing anyhow, and as  
to fly-traps, I do not deal in the article,  
but I can recommend you to a very  
reliable firm, whose "ad" is in my  
paper, who do; allow me to present you  
with their card—Gristle & Whifkins—  
they will furnish you with their cele-  
brated double-ended fly-trap at the fol-  
lowing low rates, strictly for cash. "To  
h—l with you and Gristle & Whif-  
kins, and take your infernal fly-trap  
with you; you are the biggest dead-  
beat that I ever seed." Sir, said I, bris-  
tling, I am not dead, I am the editor of  
the *Bald Eagle Clarion*, and, sir, I scorn  
the imputation of being either dead or  
beat, and to prove what I say, please  
sit up in bed and read this seventeen  
column leader which I wrote, proving  
conclusively to any ordinary intellect  
that we have had a war in America.  
William first hustled to the back side  
of the bed, but as I advanced to present  
him a copy of my paper, he commenced  
getting up. "No you don't" said he;  
then to himself: "crazy by h—l. Crazy's  
no name for it; if I git out of this  
I'll set up the rest of the night,  
confound him I stood calmly by  
watching his actions, for I thought him  
demented, and as I had often heard that  
a lunatic thought everybody else fools,  
I did not interrupt him. "Let me  
pass, stranger," said he; "I want to  
go down stairs." He shot down stairs,  
making the descent in about three  
jumps. He accosted the landlord thus:  
"That fellow you sent up to my room  
is as crazy as a bedbug. I told him to  
turn in, and he wanted to sell me sev-  
enteen thousand fly-traps; told me  
where I could get them wholesale,  
strictly for cash; then went on with a  
lot of stuff about Gristle & Whifkins,  
what do I know about them? I called  
him a dead beat, and he sprang a rig-  
marole about a bald eagle and carion,  
and the fool wanted me to sit up in  
bed and read a seventeen column ac-  
count of the buzzard's devilry and  
explites. When he first come in he  
told me something about driving quills,  
like as if as soft a thing would drive,  
and called me the Hon. Souphead,  
cuss him. For two cents, I'd burn him  
out," and he rolled his eyes savagely  
towards the loft. In a moment he was  
deeply engaged in the game with the  
landlord and packer. I had that bed  
to myself that night. The next morn-  
ing William eyed me sharply, and took  
good care to get at the farthest end of  
the table from me. This, I confess was  
perfectly agreeable to me. I was just  
ready to start, when I saw William  
cautiously advancing toward me; he  
came up within about thirty feet, when  
he stopped, pulled out his revolver,  
cocked it, and said: "I never takes an  
insult from no man, no difference where  
he is, crazy or not; now, if you don't  
take all that abuse back that you gin  
me last night, I'll raise your top-knot."  
My dear sir, said I, I am a man of  
peace, I am the editor of a paper;  
could I not induce you to subscribe  
to the spot? I was advancing toward  
him; he fired one shot wide of the  
mark; then turned and bolted for the  
barn. The last words that I heard him  
say were: "raving crazy, madder nor a  
March hare; cuss him, I wish I had  
fetched him." I hastily mounted my  
mule, and made double quick time out  
of that.

N. B.—I have since learned that  
neither William nor I understand all  
the English language.—*Editor of the  
Bald Eagle Clarion*

**VULGAR.**—One of the quickest ways  
to expose ignorance, and a lack of cul-  
ture gained by travel, is loud talking at  
a public table upon individual mat-  
ters.

A man may be much respected and  
looked up to at home for having worked  
and surrounded himself with a nice  
home, and plenty of good things, but  
when he goes abroad he must not expect  
that people will take him for more than  
his actions denote.

Loud talk at a hotel table between a  
man and his wife depreciates the gen-  
eral impression of both, and places them  
in a ridiculous light. There is a differ-  
ence between an easy, quiet self-pos-  
sion, a perfectly well-bred-at-home feel-  
ing among strangers—and a grim pom-  
posity which amounts only to disgusting  
vulgarity, although some people who  
have not traveled far from home have  
not found it out.—*Elm Orlow*.

Cyrus W. Field gave a Banquet Tel-  
egraphic Conference at Rome, at which  
21 countries, 26 languages and private  
companies whose aggregate capital is  
300,000,000 francs, were present. The  
host in an eloquent speech invited the  
Council to St. Petersburg in 1875.

We furnish the *Republican* and  
*Demorest's Monthly* for \$4 a year.

**OREGON AFFAIRS AT WASHING-  
TON.**

From the Washington correspondent  
of the *Eugene Journal* we learn that  
President Grant informed an Oregonian  
a few days since, that it was his desire  
from the first of his administration to  
have Mr. Williams in his Cabinet as  
Attorney General, but refrained from  
appointing him, on the ground that the  
appointment of Mr. Williams, at that  
time, would cause a vacancy in the  
Senate, which would be filled by a  
Democrat. He, therefore, deemed it best  
to let Mr. Williams retain his position  
as Senator, until the expiration of his  
term, which he accordingly did, and  
then requested the resignation of Mr.  
Ackerman and appointed Mr. Williams.  
The Democrats, as well as Republicans,  
from the Pacific slope, in Washington,  
express their approval of the appoint-  
ment. Concerning the recent changes  
in the Indian Department, the corre-  
spondent says:

"Senator Corbett states that the  
Secretary of the Interior informed him  
on the 25th of November, that, on the  
solicitation of Rev. Mr. Harris of the  
Methodist Board of Missions, he had  
decided to transfer the Indian Agency  
at Fort Hall from the Catholics to the  
Methodists, and the Grande Ronde  
Agency from the Methodists to the  
Catholics, in accordance with which  
Mr. P. B. Sinton was nominated. Sen-  
ator Corbett also says that, on account  
of dissatisfaction resulting in part from  
the assignment of the Fort Hall Agency  
to the Catholics, at the request of the  
Superintendent of Indian affairs, he  
was asked by Secretary Delano on the  
19th of December to designate a new  
Superintendent for Oregon and named  
Mr. Odeneal."

**PAYMENT OF THE DEBT.**—In my  
annual report to Congress for 1870, I  
expressed the opinion that the settled  
policy of the country should contem-  
plate a revenue sufficient to meet the  
ordinary expenses of the government,  
pay the interest on the public debt, and  
from twenty-five to fifty millions of dol-  
lars of the principal annually. To that  
opinion I adhere and with even a  
stronger conviction, that the payment  
annually upon the principal of the pub-  
lic debt should not be less than fifty  
millions of dollars. Large as the reve-  
nues of the country have been during  
the past three years, our system of tax-  
ation has not been oppressive to indi-  
viduals; nor has it in any sensible de-  
gree embarrassed the business of the  
country, and while relief from tax-  
ation is desirable, yet it is more desirable  
to maintain the public credit in its pre-  
sent elevated position, not only as an ex-  
ample to other nations, but for the his-  
torical value in enabling the govern-  
ment to make loans for large amounts,  
upon favorable terms, if unhappily in  
the future an exigency should require  
such loans to be made. The power to  
negotiate a large loan of 5 per cent., and  
enter upon negotiations for the sale of  
bonds drawing 6, 4 and 4 per cent. in-  
terest is derived entirely from an ex-  
hibition of an honest purpose, on the  
part of the people, to maintain the  
public faith, and the consequent ability  
on the part of the government to make  
large and frequent payments upon the  
public debt.—*Report of Secretary of  
Treasury*.

**KEEP STRAIGHT AHEAD.**—Pay no  
attention to slanderers or gossip-mongers.  
Keep straight on in your course, let  
their backbiting die the death of neglect.  
What is the use of lying awake nights,  
brooding over the remarks of some false  
friend, that runs through your brain  
like forked-lightning?

What's the use of getting into a wor-  
ry and fret over gossip that has been  
set afloat to your disadvantage by some  
meddlesome busybody, who has more  
time than character?  
"These things can't possibly injure  
you, unless, indeed, you take notice of  
them, and in combating them, give  
them character and standing. If what  
is said about you is true, set yourself  
right at once; if it is false, let it go for  
what it will fetch.  
If a bee stings you, would you go to  
the hive and destroy it? Would not a  
thousand come upon you?  
It is wisdom to say little respecting  
the injuries you have received.  
We are generally losers in the end if  
we stop to refute all the backbitings and  
gossipings we may hear by the way.  
They are annoying, it is true, but not  
dangerous, so long as we do not stop to  
expostulate and scold.  
Our characters are formed and sus-  
tained by ourselves, and by our own  
actions and purposes, and not by others.  
Let us bear in mind that "calumnies  
may usually be trusted to time and the  
slow but steady justice of public opin-  
ion."

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ASA SHREVE.

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