

THE OREGON SCOUT.

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FACTS AND FANCIES.

The dance most in favor in New York this winter is the highland schottische. But sixty-nine prisoners are confined in the New Mexico territorial penitentiary.

The walnut is being planted for ornamental purposes in some parts of Southern California.

La Nature claims that a machine of one-horse power would keep 27,000,000 watches going.

About two thousand cases of murder were reported to the press in 1885 in the United States.

The spring sunshine of the holiday started the sap, and in Vermont they are making maple sugar.

It is suggested that he is called the "unspeakable Turk" because of the number of wives he has.

A tame cougar followed like a dog a herd of a wild cowboys in the street of Portland, Oregon, the other day.

Navajo Indians at Gallup, Arizona territory, recently ran down a band of thieves who had robbed a jewelry store.

A Marysville, Cal., firm sold over 40,000 pounds of turkey during the holidays to San Francisco and other dealers.

A quarrel between the gas company and the councilmen has left the street of Wallingford, Conn., in total darkness.

Note in San Francisco Bulletin: The "Chicago Church choir company" is murdering "The Mikado" in the interior.

One of Uncle Sam's mail-bags at Grass Valley, Cal., was destroyed by the gnawing of some rats which had a keen sense for wedding cake.

A paper called The Popular Pulse has been started at Portland, Oregon.

A 12-year-old colored girl in Los Angeles has become a mother.

The wool clip of Oregon and Washington territory for 1885 was 13,000,000 pounds, which was 3,000,000 pounds in excess of 1884 and 5,000,000 ahead of 1883.

According to an ancient idea pelicans were hatched dead, but the cock pelican brought them to life by wounding his breast and letting one drop of blood fall upon each.

Mexico's crop of Indian corn, universally used in making tortillas, amounts to about one-ninth that of the United States. In some parts of the country three crops a year may be made.

A baboon on Staten Island is a confirmed beer-drinker, and often gets hilarious on it—makes a man of him self, as it were—but will not tolerate the music of a band in his vicinity if he can prevent it.

Definition by a French postoffice clerk: A married woman is a letter which has reached its address. A young lady is a letter which has not been posted. An old maid is a letter forgotten at the post restante.

Miss Longwait (aged 38, discussing for a masked ball): "I think I shall appear as the fairy queen." Young Longwait: "Capital, capital! The fairies, you know, have come down to us from a former generation."

The man who has the courage to discuss politics with his wife would no shrink from contradicting his mother in-law on matters relating to the proper management of babies. But such a man rarely dies of old age.

The author of "Houpla" and other popular military novels recently published in England turns out to be a woman. This is a greater surprise than that the recent revelation of Charles Egbert Cradock's identity in Miss Murfree.

Few American women step more than twenty-four inches on the average. Tight skirts and lack of practice make the steps of most of them range from eighteen to twenty-three inches. If they would learn to take longer steps they would wear loose gowns, they could walk much further with less fatigue.

Ethel (who really thinks she must clean some of her old gloves this winter, times are so bad): "Do you sell kid revivers?" Chemist: "Yes, yes, m'am. I think you'll find 'Mrs. Gummidge's Infant Cordial' most excel—"

(Confusion.)

The distinctive feature of the crocol exhibit at the New Orleans exposition is its ancient and time-worn appearance. Like the crocolos themselves, everything centers in the past. There are specimens of antique china, a chateleine with seven jewels, 325 years old; a bead necklace dating to the fifteenth century; an ivory fan and silver candlestick owned by Lady Washington; a saddle and bridle used by the first Napoleon; a platter brought over by Ursuline monks in 1727, and other relics of interesting historical association.

There is some discussion upon the equestrian performance of cowboys, shared by the defenders and opponents of the western riders. One says: "Take a cowboy cutting out cattle. He sits his horse with perfect grace, scarcely a perceptible motion in seat, while the horse is going at full speed. But when the cowboy comes east and rides a trotting horse in the English style his horsemanship meets a severer test. A master of riding-school near Boston says one of his most singular pupils was a cowboy who could not keep his seat on an English saddle."

RIDING A BRONCHO.

As Editor's Experience With One of These Frisky Animals.

From the Santa Fe Democrat.

A broncho is a horse. He has four legs like the saw horse, but is decidedly more skittish. The broncho is of gentle deportment and modest mein, but there isn't a real safe place about him. There is nothing mean about the broncho, though; he is perfectly reasonable and acts on principle. All he asks is to be left alone, but he does ask this and even insists on it. He is firm in this matter and no kind of argument can shake his determination. There is a broncho that lives out some miles from this city. We know him right well. One day a man roped him and tried to put a saddle on him. The broncho looked saddy at him, shook his head and begged the fellow as plain as could be to go away and not try to interfere with a broncho who was simply engaged in the pursuit of his own happiness, but the man came on with the saddle and continued to aggress. Then the broncho reached out with his right hind foot and expostulated with him so that he died. When thoroughly aroused the broncho is quite fatal, and if you can get close enough to him to examine his cranial structure you will find a cavity just above the eye where the bump of remorse should be.

The broncho is what the cowboys call "high string." If you want to know just how high he is string, climb up on his apex. We rode a broncho once. We didn't travel far, but the ride was mighty exhilarating while it lasted. We got on with great pomp and a derrier, but we didn't put on any unnecessary style when we went to get off. The beast evinced considerable surprise when we took up our location upon his dorsal fin. He seemed to think a moment, and then he gathered up his loins and delivered a volley of heels and hardware, straight out from the shoulder. The recoil was fearful. We saw that our seat was going to be contested, and we began to make a motion to dismount, but the beast had got under way by this time, so we breathed a silent hymn and tightened our grip. He now went off into a spasm of fall, still-legged bucks. He pitched us so high that every time we started down we would meet him coming up on another trip. Finally he gave us one grand, farwell hoost, and we clove the element and split up through the bushes at the top of the mountain, and we could distinctly hear the music of the spheres. Then we came down and fell in a little heap, about one hundred yards from the starting point. A kind Samaritan gathered up our remains in a cigar-box and carried us to the hospital. As they looked pityingly at us the attending surgeons marvelled at the nature of our mishap. One said it was a cyclone, another said it was a railroad smash-up, but we thought of the calico-hided pony that was grazing peacefully in the dewy mead and held our peace.

IN A TUNNEL.

The Awful Mistake of a New-Made Bridegroom.

A newly married couple were enroute to Washington by the Baltimore & Ohio. There are many tunnels on this road the other side of the Ohio river. All through Ohio the face of the young man wore occasional looks of pain, despite his great joy. He seemed to want something. Apparently he yearned. Over in West Virginia the train entered a tunnel. Upon emerging into the light the young man's face was seen to wear a stolid expression. He was thinking. At first he seemed perplexed, then interested, then triumphant. He had had a revelation. Then he smiled with a firm, manly, confident smile, and his eyes peered ahead for the first sign of a woman in the mountain side. The bride was happy and demure. Whiskers—shadows—rumble—darkness. The veil is drawn. It is another tunnel. Light again, and the young man looks happier than ever. The bride's cheek disports a gentle blush—a modest inexperienced blush, discovered only to the initiated and envious. No perplexity, no anxiety now. The revelation has been tested and found a success. There are many tunnels, but not enough. If the whole line were a tunnel the bride and groom would not care how slow the train proceeded. The man who has not lived to bless the builders of tunnels does not know what happiness is. He is but little above the brute, which never troubled the Creator for passing clouds over the moon on prayer-meeting night. But our bridegroom was not one of these parties. He appreciated all the blessings which man and nature has bestowed upon him. He did not miss a tunnel.

But all things must have an end. Daylight always comes to the newly married. Strawberries and cream must be paid for at the cashier's desk. Within this blissful cucumber hides a microbe. Our young husband goes for a drink of water. While on this errand his eager eye catches the signs of another tunnel. Of course he fears his bride will be sore afraid if left alone in the darkness, and he hastens to her side. Quick are his feet, but faster moves the train. Darkness gathers while he is yet half a dozen seats away. But the brave man does not falter. He goes along, he reaches the seat (or thinks he does) and slides into it. Deep are the shadows and hums the train.

A scream, long and vigorous—a sound of scuffling—a thump or two—and the bright light of a May day breaks upon the scene. The young husband frantically endeavors to disengage himself from the grasp of an angry colored woman sitting in the seat just behind the bride. He at length succeeds and retreats sullenly to his seat, wiping his mouth and occasionally spitting upon the floor as if he had bitten through a worm in a fig.

The tunnels come and go, but their shadows are scarcely deeper than those upon the face of the young honeymoon.

In The Virginia Mountains.

Washington Republic.

Grundy is a mere hamlet on the bank of Big Sandy river, ten miles from Kentucky state line, the home of the "moonshiner," walled in by mountains on all sides. The area of the whole village is not more than one and one-half acres, and a wilder, more desolate looking place you cannot imagine. I could find but two men in Abingdon who had ever been to Grundy or could give me any idea of the road leading there. One of them was a revenue officer who once made a raid over there on horseback; the other was a member of congress for that district, who had been there once during the political campaign of last fall.

They had made the distance by horseback, sixty miles from Abingdon and by wagon road ninety-six miles. They said it would be impossible to find the horseback road without a guide, as the road was a mere path over rocky mountains, often almost indiscernible. I could not hire a guide or a saddle horse without a sore back (the horse's back not the guide's), so I hired a covered wagon and a pair of horses and went it alone, taking a supply of raw dried beef, canned meat and crackers. Of all the trips I ever took, that was the worst. It was up and down mountains all the way. I was six days and nights on the road. One horse played out almost entirely before I got back. My right arm is stiff and sore yet from using the brake on the wagon to keep it from running over and killing the horses coming down the mountains. I had great difficulty in finding the way, as nobody on the road seemed to have ever been five miles from home.

On top of Big Sandy mountain I came across a woman standing in her long dress with a child in her arms, looking very miserable. She said, "Meester, did you meet an old woman on a mule?" "Yes, about two miles back." "Did the mule fling her?" "No, not in my presence, why?" "Well that old woman is my mammy and 'critters' up in does mountains haint men to kivered concerns, and I was skeert the mule mout ha fling her."

I wondered if the horses and mules were really afraid of wheeled vehicles. About a mile further on, I spied about 200 yards ahead of me a party of four persons mounted on mules. As soon as I drove in sight, they rode up in the bushes and dismounted, and as I had been cautioned that it was not perfectly safe to go over the mountain alone if there was anything about me like a revenue officer, and as it was then getting dusk, I was a little doubtful what that maneuver meant. But I drove bravely up to my surprise each man was holding his "critter" close by the bit and the "critters" gave them a lively time to hold them until my wagon passed. I then remembered having read a year or two ago a speech or lecture made by Reverdy Johnson, in Baltimore, in which he said there was a county in the mountain section of Virginia, in which there was not a single wheeled vehicle known, and only one wagon road through the country. I immediately concluded that I had found the county and road.

From the eastern edge of Buchanan county, where I entered it, to Grundy is thirty-one miles. I did not see in that whole thirty-one miles a single brick or frame house of any description. Nothing but the lowest order of log huts; stack chimneys three or four feet lower than the house. The porches formed the roof, held down by rocks piled on them. I was in the rain all one day, and forced at night to seek shelter in one of these houses, where I could have a fire, as it was very cold up in the mountains. The whole family occupied the room with me. The horses were turned out to graze. It was court week at Grundy. Court was held in a small school-house. The hotel is a frame building of only two rooms with a stack chimney between. Four beds were in each room, and one of these rooms was also used for dining purposes, if people could be said to dine who eat twice a day, 365 days in the year, nothing but hot, half-done soda biscuit and fried meat. I killed eleven snakes on the road and drank a quart of rot-gut mountain whiskey to hold the hot biscuit down. There is not a frame house, I was told, in Buchanan county, outside of Grundy, and there are only five there since the fire.

Mr. Duke's Explanation.

From the Detroit Free Press.

It was at a big August meeting in Wake county, N. C., and there were acres of darkies present. The "Crossing of the Red Sea" was the subject of the discourse, and the Rev. Mr. Duke, a "manipulated minister, was treating it in the most frigid manner. He had just closed by saying, "Moses and the chil'un of Israel crossed over the Red Sea on the ice, but when Faro and his lumberin' big chariots come 'long dey broke free the ice and dey was all drowned," when a young man from town arose and said:

"Bree Dukus, will you 'low me to ax you a question?"

"Sartinly; what is it?"

"Well, Bree Dukus, 's bin studdin' geography, an' geographry teaches me dat de Red Sea an' de tropics. What I want to ax is dis: What dat ice cum from whar Moses crossed ober on?"

Bree Dukus cleared his throat, mopped his brow, hesitated a moment, and replied:

"Well, I esglad you ax dat question. It gives me an opportunity to 'splain. My dear young man, you musn't think 'cause you 'ar store close an' big to school dat you know every thing. Dis thing I 'ar preaching 'bout took place long time ago, 'fore dere was any geographics an' 'fore dere was any tropics."

Boycotting a Legislator.

Cheyenne Special: The meat market owned by Kerr Brothers, at Carbon, Wyo., is boycotted by the local assembly of the Knights of Labor because of the stand Kerr, as speaker of the Wyoming house of representatives, took against appropriating \$1,000,000 of territorial funds for the benefit of the families of men killed in the Alma mine disaster.

The Carbon county delegation waited on the miners at Carbon and got a lively tongue-lashing. McCormick, a member of the upper house, was with Kerr and came in for a share of the abuse. The bill, which had been amended in the upper house to give the sufferers \$1,100,000, will probably meet more opposition than before.

THE FORTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

A Record of Proceedings in Both Branches of the Same.

SENATE.—This being the day appointed forenate addresses in memoriam of the late vice-President Hendricks, the galleries of the senate began to fill at an early hour. When, therefore, at noon the president pro tempore (Mr. Sherman) called the senate to order all the seats in the galleries were occupied, the larger proportion of the senators, however, being absent. Mr. Sherman called up his resolution expressive of the senate's deep sense of the public loss in the death of the late Vice-President Hendricks. For the eminent citizen of the republic, he said, who lately fell from his place and who now sleeps in honor in the bosom of the state he loved so well and served so faithfully, we can do no more and never has already been done by the tongue, and by every method which human affection can inspire. All the honors due to the most illustrious dead have been paid by the chief magistrate of the government, by the authority of the states and by the unrestrained affection of the people. In the senate, however, we may not be silent, even though the cup of honor to his memory is full and overflowing. In this exalted theatre of action, here and there, in the light of the past, he fulfilled his last official engagement and closed his long and commanding public career. In conclusion Mr. Voorhees said: "As long as American history treasures up pure lives and faithful public services, as long as public and private virtue, stainless and without blemish, is revered, so long will the name of Thomas A. Hendricks be cherished by the American people as an example worthy of emulation. In the busy harvest of death of the year 1885 there was sacrificed to eternity no nobler spirit, no higher intelligence, no more devoted patriot, no more devoted citizen, no more devoted man, than the late Vice-President, Mr. Hendricks. He said that when death laid its inexorable hand on Thomas A. Hendricks, vice president of the United States, we had a new and faithful illustration of the truth of the people's belief, 'a shining mark.' Mr. Hendricks was best loved where he was best known. Crowned with almost every civil honor which a grateful people could bestow, blest by domestic happiness as perfect as it was beautiful, he did, indeed, offer a shining mark. When one of the great and noble spirits of the age fell all our necessities were buried with him. In the awful presence of death friends and foes alike strove to do justice. The scenes around the death bed, Mr. Hampton said, proved the brotherhood of mankind, and showed that one of the noblest of men was a whole world's kin. This thought made a deep impression, was indelibly fixed by the extraordinary spectacle held at the funeral of General Grant. Other speeches were made at conclusion of which the resolutions in memoriam were agreed to, and as a further evidence of respect for the memory of the late president official, the senate, on motion of Mr. Harris, adjourned.

HOUSE.—Bills and resolutions were introduced as follows: To limit the jurisdiction of the United States courts in patent cases, and to protect persons, who without notice are bona fide manufacturers, purchasers, vendors or users of articles for exclusive use, manufacture or sale, of which a patent has been or may hereafter be granted. By Mr. Will's, of Kentucky.—Providing that in the employment of labor on public works no person shall be employed as a citizen of the United States, and prohibiting the employment of convict labor. To prohibit the importation of paper labor. Authorizing the payment of postal notes by money order offices. Fixing at \$5,000,000 the maximum limit of the capital stocks of national banking associations. For relief of railroad mail clerks who have been in the postal service for twenty years. A resolution calling on the secretary of the interior for copies of any and all contracts or leases which are now in the hands of his office for the Southern Pacific Railroad company and any railroad to which land grants have been made or which have received bonds from the United States. Also, for a copy of the charter of the Southern Pacific Railroad, and also for copies of any contract or bill between the Pacific Mail Steamship company and any of the subsidized roads. Mr. Morrison, of Illinois, from the committee on ways and means, reported a bill relating to the taxation of fractional parts of a gallon of distilled spirits. Mr. Adams of Illinois, from the committee on banking and currency, reported a bill to enable national banking associations to increase their capital and to change their location and name. Placed on the house calendar.

SENATE.—Ingalls presented a memorial of the legislature of Kansas praying for the establishment of two additional military stations in that state as protection against the depredations of Indians. The senate took up the bill to divide part of the Sioux reservation in Dakota and secure the relinquishment of the Indian title to the remainder. No definite conclusion was reached. Harrison called up the bill for the admission of Dakota. The bill having been read, Harrison addressed the senate in its support. He said that no man could suppose that the descendants of the men who, in 1774, complained of the denial of their officials by others than themselves would long be content with the treatment of their affairs as territorial and colonial. We should remember who these people were who inhabited the territory of Dakota. They had been, until lately, citizens of the several states and exercised all the privileges of citizenship. They, therefore, knew how valuable was the privilege of citizenship. Harrison spoke of the immense products of the territory last year, and of the general thrift of its people. But, then, he took the floor in reply to Harrison, but yielded for an executive session, after which the senate adjourned.

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Hotels.—Weniver, of Iowa, introduced a bill to provide for the organization of the territory of Oklahoma, for the allotment of homesteads to Indians in severalty and open up the unoccupied lands to the actual settlers. Referred. Wheeler, from the committee on military affairs, reported the bill authorizing the president to restore of the army in certain cases. The bill refers to the case of Fitz John Porter and it was placed upon the public calendar. It may be called up for action any time during the morning hour, an advantage which is not enjoyed by the specific Fitz John Porter bill, which is upon the private calendar.

Wheeler, from the committee on expenditures in the department of justice, reported a resolution calling on the secretary of the treasury for a report of all balances due and from the United States, as shown by the books of the office register and sixth auditor of the treasury from the 29th to the 30th of June, 1885. The secretary of war and postmaster-general are also called on for a statement of balances as shown by the books of their departments. Adjourned.

Among bills introduced was one by Sherman to discontinue the coinage of the silver dollar and provide for the purchase of silver bullion in bars of not less than two million ounces nor more than four million ounces per month, at the market price, and for the issue in payment thereof of coin certificates of not less denomination than \$10 each, the bullion to remain in the treasury as security for the payment of the certificates. Ingalls presented a petition of Frederick Douglass and other leading colored citizens of the District of Columbia, complaining against discrimination against them at the theatre and other places of public entertainment in the city of Washington and praying that the laws of the District of Columbia be so amended as to prevent such discrimination. The Dakota bill was discussed without action. A message from the governor of Illinois announced the death of Hon. Reuben Ellwood, late member of that body from the state of Illinois. Mr. Lozan characterized the deceased as a man well equipped for the positions of trust to which his constituents had called him, a man of high honor and unblemished integrity, who, by unremitting energy and industry, had amassed a fortune which he knew how to use in benevolence and charity. Adjourned.

Sixty-six, Jan. 29.—Among bills introduced was one by Call, at the request of the governor of Florida, to authorize the secretary of the treasury to settle and pay the claims of the state of Florida on account of expenditures in suppressing Indians. Platt submitted a resolution for reference to the committee on rules, and it was referred, providing that executive nominations should be considered in open session. Platt said he would not care to speak on the resolution if it should be favorably reported on by the committee on rules, but would probably do so if adversely reported on. The Dakota bill was discussed until Monday.

HOUSE, Jan. 29.—After a few private measures had been reported by the committee, the house, at 1:30, went into committee of the whole on the private calendar. The house at the evening session passed about fifty pension bills and adjourned until Monday.

SENATE, Feb. 1.—The senate went to the calendar and took up and passed the bill providing for a division of part of the Sioux reservation in Dakota, and the relinquishment of the Indian title to the remainder. Bland offered, for reference to the coinage, weights and measures committee, a resolution calling on the secretary of the treasury for information as to whether any arrangement was effected by the treasury department with the clearing house company of New York to prevent the coinage of silver, and if so, by what authority of law that department assumes to virtually suspend the coinage of silver by hoarding money in the treasury. It also calls for information as to the amount of silver dollars in the treasury unencumbered by outstanding certificates on the 4th of March last, and what is the amount to-day; also, what amount of the interest bearing debt is now subject to call and what policy is to be pursued in the payment of silver thereon and on other dues. House, Feb. 1.—Under the call of the states, the following bills were introduced and referred: By King, of Louisiana—Appropriating three million dollars for closing the gaps in the levees of the Mississippi river and strengthening and giving permanency to the same. When the call of the states was completed several motions to adjourn were made on the republican side, but they were all voted down, and Matson, having secured the floor, moved to suspend the rules and put upon its passage the bill increasing pensions on soldiers' widows from \$8 to \$12, with an amendment providing that this act shall apply only to widows who were married to deceased soldiers prior to its passage and to those who may hereafter marry prior to ordering the discharge of the soldier. The motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill was agreed to—yeas 128, nays 68.

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