

# THE OREGON SCOUT.

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## LEFT DANGLING FROM A TREE.

A Woman Ravisher Taken in Hand by Vigilantes and Summarily Dispatched.

Hetron (Neb.) special to the Omaha Herald: Eli Owens, the man who was arrested here Friday last on the charge of having committed a foul outrage on Ida Grim, a 16-year-old girl, and his sister-in-law, was hung by a vigilance committee at 3 o'clock this morning. The crime occurred near Alexandria, and lynching was looked for, but when the prisoner was moved to this place and put in the county jail he was presumed to be safe. The mob, all masked, came from Alexandria on horses and was more than twenty strong, fully armed and determined.

The jailer was awakened by raps at the door and on answering the call was confronted by the leader of the vigilantes and a brace of revolvers. Peaceable admission to the jail was asked for and refused, and then a rush was made for the door by the mob, who stood in waiting outside. Sledges and crowbars knocked the door from its hinges and access was easy. After that there was no resistance. A demand for Owens was made, but as he was not forthcoming the door to his cell was quickly forced and broken down without trouble. The prisoner was discovered cowering in a corner. He trembled with fear and begged for his life, knowing that his last hour had come. He was vouchsafed no answer, and from that time knew his captors would be unmerciful. The door broken in, a rope was thrown around Owens' neck and a dozen ready hands seized the other end and dragged the doomed wretch outside. There a wagon was found awaiting and into the box the prisoner was bundled. He was followed by a dozen men who sat down on him to prevent him from breaking away. At this time his shrieks and lamentations and prayers for mercy and a fair hearing could be heard over the town, and a large number of citizens were started from their beds, the screams being blood-curdling and fearful to hear. Men and women in all sorts of dress, or rather lack of dress, rushed into the street, only to be met by a few big silent men whose eyes flashed menacingly from behind black masks and pointed their revolvers at them and signaled them to return to their beds. Most of them did so, but one was made to dismount from carrying out their lawless acts. Among these were Judge Richards and W. D. Galbraith, but they had spoken only a few words when they were arrested and remained under guard until discretion was the better part of valor. They were ordered by two men to remain with the mob and not give an alarm. Meanwhile the lynchers had mounted their horses, and at the signal the cavalcade rode rapidly out of town. Owens continued to yell, but his cries were of no avail. He answered only a few words to the mob. He could receive no encouragement or hope from the grim, silent horsemen, who galloped furiously at his side. Indeed, his captors tortured and tormented him all the way to his death, bruising him in a terrible manner. Word had been left not to follow the vigilantes under pain of death, but all hands were made many turns to throw prisoners out of the track. Three miles from the town a clump of trees was reached, and Owens was swung to a tree, his feet swinging five feet from the ground. Whether a confession was extorted from the culprit is not known.

The sheriff was awakened by the noise and at once organized a band of men to follow the lynchers. An hour was lost in trying to find trace of the lynchers; their trail was finally struck, and just at dawn the body was discovered lazily swinging in the fresh morning breeze. It was yet warm, but the man was long since cold in resignation. He had been slowly strangled. The distorted face, drawn up limbs, and semi-clad body presented a horrible appearance.

The remains were brought to the city and an inquest held, the jury returning a verdict that deceased came to his death at the hands of unknown persons. All the facts did not come out at the inquest, as there is a disposition here to forget out the vigilantes and bring them to justice. The officers were especially close-mouthed and apparently sore over the affair. There is no question that the mob came from Alexandria, where Owens' execution was demanded on all sides.

Owens' crime was committed Friday evening. He went to the house of a neighbor where Miss Grim, a sister of his wife, was employed as a domestic, inviting her to go riding in his buggy. She consented and the pair drove away. Two miles out, in a very secluded spot, where the ground was wooded, succeeded in committing a most diabolical outrage.

He accomplished his hellish purpose by threatening to kill her with a knife which he held in his hand, and also a revolver. He admitted his guilt, and promised on the day of his trial to be a better man if not sent to jail. He repeated his hellish deed three times, and threatened her if she mentioned it to her parents or others. He told his wife before he left home what he intended doing, and threatened her life also if she thought it to anyone.

## THOUGHT IT AN EARTHQUAKE.

New Jersey Dynamite Works Blown Up With a Terrible Crash.

The Forsite Powder and Dynamite company's works, near Hopatcong, New Jersey, were blown up on the 22d by a terrific explosion, which shook the country for miles around. People thought there was an earthquake, and when the sky in the direction of Lake Hopatcong became lurid a short time later it was conjectured that the Hotel Breslin, at the head of the lake, was burning. The matter was much thought of by country people in the vicinity until next day, when a farmer living near the works came forward and reported that the Forsite works had blown up and that several men were killed. The works are in a secluded spot, and all facts concerning them are kept a secret and as quiet as possible by the owners, owing to the general dislike of having such a dangerous business carried on anywhere near a community. It is impossible at present to verify the loss of life.

## COWBOY TOUGHS.

Denver Junction (Col.) dispatch: Yesterday afternoon the town was thrown in a commotion over the appearance of a gang of cowboys, who are on a drive from the south. They first, as usual, filled up at the saloons, then mounting their horses they began riding through the town, up and down the sidewalks and into the saloons. After they had rounded up the town, as they supposed, and were nearly ready to depart, they made an attempt to ride their horses into the Citizens' bank. They met with an obstacle at the door which they could not surmount. Both horse and rider was quickly forced from the sidewalk. They at once dismounted and came to the door. Some fears were entertained for a short time of serious trouble. Guns were very handy and in sight, but none were used. The cowboys little expected to meet with such an element at the bank.

## DOWN ON PRIVATE PENSION BILLS.

President Cleveland Exercises His Powers in Giving Them a Quietus.

Washington dispatch: In vetoing the veteran pension bill to-day the president says: I am so thoroughly tired of disappearing gifts of public money to individuals who, in my view, have no right or claim to the same, notwithstanding apparent congressional sanction, that I interpose with a feeling of relief in a case where I find it unnecessary to determine the merits of the application. In speaking of the promiscuous and ill-advised grants of pensions which have lately been presented to me for approval, I have spoken of their apparent congressional sanction in recognition of the fact that a large proportion of these bills have never been submitted to a majority of either branch of congress, but are the result of nominal sessions held for the express purpose of their consideration and attended by a small majority of the members of the respective houses of the legislative branch of the government. Thus, in considering these bills, I have not felt that I was aided by the deliberate judgment of congress, and when I have deemed it my duty to disapprove many of the bills presented, I have hardly regarded my action as distant from the conclusions of the people's representatives. I have not been insensible to a suggestion which should influence any citizen, either in private station or official place, to exhibit not only just but generous appreciation of the services of our country's defenders. Healthfulness and disregard of the principle which underlies granting of pensions is unfair to the wounded, crippled soldier who is honored in just recognition of his government. Such a man should never be side by side on the pension roll with those who have been tempted to attribute their natural ill to which humanity is heir, to service in the army. The president suggests the significance of the startling increase in pension legislation and consequences involved in its continuance.

In his veto for the public building at Sioux City, the president says: The report of the committee of the house of representatives to whom this bill was referred, states that, by the census of 1880, the population of Sioux City was nearly 8,000, and that by another enumeration, since made, its population would seem to exceed 23,000. It is further stated in the report that for the accommodation of the city a public building, 110 by 100 feet, and 2,984 frame buildings. It seems to me that in consideration of the merits of this bill the necessities of the government should control the question and that it should be decided as a business proposition, dependent upon the needs of a government building at the point proposed for a public building, and not upon the statistics showing the population, extent of business, prospective growth and matters of that kind which, though exceedingly interesting, do not always demonstrate the necessity of the expenditure of a large sum of money for a public building. I find upon examination that United States courts are sometimes held at Sioux City, but that they have been thus far held in the county court house without serious inconvenience and without any expense to the government. There are actually no other federal officers there for whom the government should provide accommodations except the postmaster. The postoffice is now located in a building rented by the government until the first of January, 1889, at the rate of 2,200 per annum. By the last report of the supervising architect, it appears that on October 1, 1885, there were eighty-one unfinished public buildings under construction and that the amount expended thereon during the preceding year was nearly two and one-half million dollars, while large appropriations were asked to be expended on these buildings during the current year. In my judgment the number of public buildings now under construction is excessive, and unless greater public necessity exists therefor than is apparent in this case.

## THE IRISH NATIONAL LEAGUE.

Congratulation Upon the Splendid Progress Making by Gladstone.

The following is the substance of the circular sent out by the executive officers of the Irish National League of America to the officers and members of branches: We are glad to be able to congratulate you upon the splendid progress our cause has made since we last addressed you. After the general election now about to take place we believe that Gladstone will be in a position to undo, by an overwhelming majority, the so-called union which that great statesman himself, in his address at Midlothian, so truly described as a paper union obtained by force and fraud, and never sanctioned or accepted by the Irish nation. In pursuance of the powers conferred on us by the national executive committee of the league, we hereby summon the third regular convention of the Irish National League of America to be held in Central Music Hall, Chicago, on Wednesday, Thursday, August 18th and 19th, and earnestly trust that every branch of the league will be fully represented. All branches and societies affiliated with the league that have subscribed the regular dues for the current term, or have contributed to the parliamentary fund a sum equal to the amount of dues, shall be entitled to representation as follows: One delegate for every fifty members in good standing; provided, however, that in country districts, where the number of fifty members cannot be easily reached, the number from twenty-five to fifty shall be entitled to one delegate. We look for the attendance of a most important delegation from the home league and parliamentary party. All arrangements for the convention shall be under the sole charge of the committee of arrangements of Chicago, already organized, of which ex-President Alexander Sullivan and the officers of the league for the city of Chicago and state of Illinois are members. Every branch of the league should set to work promptly to prepare for the coming crisis, and should remit all funds on hand immediately to the national treasurer at Detroit, Mich., as that money may be forwarded by him to Ireland and be made available if necessary, for the approaching campaign. All true friends of Ireland should, by active and earnest organization, endeavor to make our approaching convention worthy of the sacred cause in which we are engaged—the cause of Irish liberty. We remain, yours very faithfully, PATRICK EGAN, President.

CHARLES O'REILLY, Treasurer.  
JOHN P. SUTTON, Secretary.

## THEY WANT TO JOIN US.

Diety (N. S.) dispatch: The question of secession having been favored at the polls, there is more expression by the people in regard to their desire for annexation. Last week after the victory by the liberals on the question on issue, a wealthy sea captain, of Diety, took his little hatchet, stripped Digby from the highest spruce tree on his farm near the town and raised the stars and stripes. Thereupon a mob of about a hundred men, pointing at it, shouted to a Tory interrogative point beneath him on the ground: "That is our next question to vote on, and you will find, before long, two-thirds of us that way of thinking."

## THE WEATHER AND CROPS.

As Set Forth in Reports to an Agricultural Paper.

The following crop summary appears in this week's issue of the Chicago Farmer's Review: Harvesting is in progress in portions of Ohio and Indiana, and in large sections of Kentucky, Missouri, Kansas and Tennessee grain has already been gathered. The yield in all these states, with the exception of Kansas, promises to be nearly up to the average, and in Missouri will be above the average. In Washington county, Missouri, report is made that grain is threshing out an average of twenty-one bushels to the acre in many fields. In Davis and Ellis counties, Kansas, wheat is averaging eight or ten bushels to the acre, but though short in quantity, promises to grade well. In Southern Illinois the reports of damage by chinch bugs in the wheat field still continue and in St. Clair county the ravages have been so serious as to reduce the probable yield from five to seven bushels an acre. In Central Illinois the outlook for wheat is not so promising. A serious drought, threatening the entire spring wheat belt, has been quite generally broken by copious rains, and the danger which seemed to threaten the life of almost the entire crop has been passed. The average of the general yield in Dakota, Minnesota and Wisconsin has been lowered probably 10 per cent by the prolongation of the drought, and in portions of Minnesota caused an almost total blight, in which rains came too late to revive the grain. In Beadle county, Dak., the report states that the average of wheat was reduced 10 per cent by the drought; in Codington county, 15 to 20 per cent; in Spink county, 10 per cent; in Ashton county, 25 per cent. In Dakota county, Minn., it is reported that the dry weather in connection with chinch bugs reduced the average 50 per cent. In Olmstead county some fields are reported dead. In Steel county there was no rain for four weeks and the outlook for wheat was probably 20 per cent. In Yellow Mouth county a five weeks' drought was broken June 12th by rain, but the present outlook is not for an exceed one-half a crop. In Blue Earth county wheat is shorter and thinner than before for years. In a few portions of Wisconsin no rains have fallen since the first of June, and Nebraska no visible injury to wheat is reported from the drought, but out prospects have been greatly lessened, and in seven Iowa counties reports indicate that the average has been reduced fully 25 per cent. Jefferson and Muscatine counties in Iowa are the only ones that report a normal crop, but it is probably the result of the general crop outlook. The corn crop outlook in the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Illinois and Indiana is almost uniformly good. Some injury by cut worms is reported from different sections, but it is probably of minor importance. The fields in Minnesota, Kansas and Iowa are reported especially clear and promising a large crop.

## A MEASURE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE.

Especially to Numerous Settlers in the States of Nebraska and Kansas.

Washington special: To-day Senator Van Wyck reported to the senate from the committee on public lands, the bill for the relief of settlers and purchasers of lands on the public domain in the states of Nebraska and Kansas which passed the house on April 5 last. The bill was amended by the senate committee by striking out all after the enacting clause and substituting a bill by Van Wyck, which is of the same character with the exception of the omission of two clauses which provided for the extension of the provisions of the act to other classes of settlers. Senator Van Wyck's bill, which was reported and which will undoubtedly become a law, provides that for the purpose of reimbursing persons who, under the homestead, pre-emption, or other laws, settled upon or purchased lands under the grant made by the act entitled, "An act for a grant of lands to the state of Kansas to aid in the construction of the Northern Kansas railroad and telegraph, approved July 23, 1876," and to whom patents have been issued therefor, but against which persons have been issued patents, and also certain decrees have been entered by the United States Circuit court on account of the priority of said grant made in the act above entitled, the sum of \$250,000 is appropriated; provided, however, that no part shall be paid until he shall have filed with the secretary of the interior a copy of said decrees, duly certified, and also a certificate of the judge of the court rendering the same, to the effect that such a decree was rendered in a bona fide controversy 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