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ELEVENTH YEAR — HEPPNER, MORROW COUNTY, OREGON, TUESDAY, MAY 30, 1893. — WEEKLY NO. 582. SEMI-WEEKLY NO. 131.

SEMI WEEKLY GAZETTE.

PUBLISHED
Tuesdays and Fridays
—BY—
THE PATTERSON PUBLISHING COMPANY.

ALVAH W. PATTERSON.....Bus. Manager.
OTIS PATTERSON.....Editor

At $2.50 per year, $1.25 for six months, 75 cts. for three months.

Advertising Rates Made Known on Application.

The "EAGLE," of Long Creek, Grant County, Oregon, is published by the same company every Friday morning. Subscription price, $2 per year. For advertising rates, address ORTIS E. PATTERSON, Editor and Manager, Long Creek, Oregon, or "Gazette," Heppner, Oregon.

THIS PAPER is kept on file at E. C. Dake's Advertising Agency, 64 and 65 Merchants Exchange, San Francisco, California, where contracts for advertising can be made for it.

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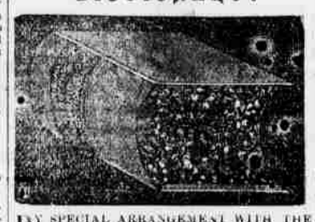

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Every Reader OF THIS journal is invited to aid in the erection of a great home for newspaper workers by sending one dime to "Press Club Building and Charity Fund," Temple Court, New York. You will aid a great work and receive by return mail a wonderful puzzle-game which amuses the young and old, baffles the mathematicians and interests everybody. Public spirited merchants have contributed $25,000 worth of premiums for such as can solve the mystery. Everything from a "Knox" hat to a "Steinway" piano.

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QUEER WESTERN DUELS.

Curiosities of the Code of Honor on the Mexican Frontier.

Hard Fights for Life with the Lasso—Some of Farmer Peel's Notorious Achievements—Encounters on the Comstock—Underground Fights.

The riata duel is not a new thing on the Mexican frontier. Indeed, there is hardly a big cattle range anywhere that has not its stories of hard fights with the lasso. Such duels are bound to be fierce. But so skillful and quick do these rope-throwers become that such a duel not unfrequently lasts for hours.

Probably the best-remembered fight of this sort, says the San Francisco Examiner, was that between a Texan known as Kid Long and a little Mexican who was only spoken of as "Gabilan"—hawk—on the great Lievre range. They circled around each other, dodging the rapid throws from ten in the morning until after sunset. When the horses had almost given out the Texan threw at his adversary, who threw back so that his noose passed right over the other man's lasso and hand and caught him fair around the neck and under the armpit. In almost no time Kid was out of his saddle and being dragged over the ground at a rate that knocked the life out of him before he had gone a hundred yards.

The West, during its wild and woolly days, and the Mexican frontier have had many remarkable duels. That between "Farmer" Peel and a soldier near one of the forts in Utah is among the classics of the field of honor—or what has answered for that in the cow towns and mining camp. The weapons were rifles, revolvers and bowie-knives. The principals were placed on opposite sides of a hillock, around which ran a road, and started to meet. The curve of the hill prevented their seeing one another until they were within a hundred yards. As soon as they saw one another they both fired. Though part of the rim of Peel's ear was cut off and the soldier's sleeve was pierced, neither was hurt. Then they pulled their pistols and advanced, firing. Both dropped badly wounded when less than twenty yards separated them. They lay there squirming and shooting until both had emptied their weapons. Peel was desperately hurt, and his adversary had one ball through the stomach and several others distributed all over his anatomy. When they could shoot no more they lay for a short time swearing. Then Peel, who was so badly hurt that he could not advance even on his hands and knees, began to wriggle toward the fallen soldier. He pulled himself along with his elbows, and with his one uninjured hand finished the soldier with his bowie-knife.

Farmer Peel already had the biggest private graveyard of any man in the vicinity. This encounter spread his fame all over the coast, and when he went over to Nevada he received everywhere the homage of lesser knights.

They have lots of deadly encounters up there on the Comstock. There was one a number of years ago fought over half a mile underground. According to the evidence given at the inquest by the survivor, the two miners were working alone in a drift. They were rivals for the affections of a woman, and in a quarrel one made a drive at the other with his candlestick. A miner's candlestick consists of a metal socket attached to a sharp steel spike, so that it can be stuck in the face of the drift anywhere. The second miner defended himself with his candlestick, and there, thousands of feet under the ground, they wrestled and stabbed until one's life was gone. As they did not come up when they should have gone off shift others went down in search of them. They found one dead and the other unconscious through loss of blood. The jury, of course, had to take the survivor's story of the affair, and he was acquitted.

A little blind canyon in the Sierra Madre used to furnish the Apaches with the means of formally settling their disputes. This gulch is fairly alive with rattlesnakes. When two bucks had a quarrel that they did not wish to settle off hand they repaired to this gully, and while the remainder of the tribe stood around and watched from the hills on either side, the combatants went together to where the serpents were thickest. There, stark naked and weaponless, they would wrestle. This would wake up every rattler in the glen. The aim of each was to force the other on to the angry snakes. It was not unusual for both to be bitten while they struggled and rolled among the rocks. Each was bound to remain and wrestle as long as his adversary had life or strength enough to struggle with him.

A most remarkable duel was fought at Las Carnitas, N. M., many years ago. An undersized stranger came to the town and picked a quarrel with "Handsome Harry," a gambler renowned as a dead shot. They got out into the road and both fell mortally wounded. It was discovered that the stranger was a woman, and though she never spoke after she fell, the story became known that she was a sister of a girl whom "Handsome Harry" had wronged years before.

G. A. R. NOTICE.

We take this opportunity of informing our subscribers that the new commissioner of pensions has been appointed He is an old soldier, and we believe that soldiers and their heirs will receive justice at his hands. We do not anticipate that there will be any radical changes in the administration of pension affairs under the new regime.

We would advise, however, that U. S. soldiers, sailors and their heirs, take steps to make application at once, if they have not already done so, in order to secure the benefit of the early filing of their claims in case there should be any future pension legislation. Such legislation is seldom retroactive. Therefore it is of great importance that applications be filed in the department at the earliest possible date.

If the U. S. soldiers, sailors, or the widows, children or parents desire information in regard to pension matters they should write to the Press Claims Company, at Washington, D. C., and they will prepare and send the necessary application, if they find them entitled under the numerous laws enacted for their benefit. Address
PRESS CLAIMS COMPANY.
JOHN WEDDERBURN, Managing Attorney, Washington, D. C., P. O. Box 463

WORK IN A SWEAT SHOP.

How It Is Conducted in Chicago—The Miserable Wages Paid.

The Chicago sweat shop is a place where, separate from the tailoring or clothing warehouse, a "sweater" (middleman) assembles journeymen tailors and needlewomen, to work under his supervision. He takes a cheap room outside the dear and crowded business center, and within the neighborhood where the work people live. This is rent saved to the employer and time and travel to the employed. The men can and do work more hours than was possible under the centralized system, and their wives and children can help, especially when, as is often done, the garments are taken home to "finish." (Even the very young can pull out the basting threads.) This "finishing" is what remains undone after the machine has done its work, and consists of "felling" the waist and leg-end of trousers (paid at 1½ cents a pair), and, in short, all the "felling" necessary on every garment of any kind. For this service, at the prices paid, they cannot, according to Scribner, earn more than 25 cents to 40 cents a day, and the work is largely done by Italian, Polish and Bohemian women and girls.

The entire number of persons employed in these vocations may be stated at 5,000 men (of whom 800 are Jews), and from 20,000 to 23,000 women and children. The wages are reckoned by "piecework," and (outside the "finishing") run about as follows: Girls, handsewers, earn nothing for the first month, then as unskilled workers they get $1 to $1.50 a week, $3 a week, and as skilled workers, $6 a week. The first named class constitute 50 per cent. of all, the second 30 per cent. and the last 20 per cent. In the general work men are only employed to do buttonholing and pressing, and their earnings are as follows: "Pressers," $8 to $12 a week; "underpressers," $4 to $7. Cloak operators earn $8 to $12 a week. Four-fifths of the sewing machines are furnished by the "sweaters" (middlemen); also needles, thread and wax.

AN ODD CREATURE.

The Laughing Jackass and Its Peculiar Song.

The great oddity at the Golden Gate park, San Francisco, is the laughing jackass, which has an apartment all to himself. He doesn't look a bit like a humorist, but he looks so homely and cocks his head in such a strangely solemn way that everybody laughs at seeing him. Some of the park employes caught a slim little snake two feet long one afternoon and it was thrown alive into the laughing jackass' big cage. The bird pounced on the snake with a thrill of joy in his heart, and, grabbing it behind the head, he quickly thrashed the life out of it against the sides of the cage.

Then he started in at the snake's head and swallowed it all. After giving a few extra swallows of satisfaction he expressed his thanks with a hoarse, loud "Ha! ha! ha! ha! ha! ha! ha!" that was about as musical as his physiognomy is beautiful. Superintendent McLaren was visibly touched by the lonely bird's gratitude for an act of kindness. Next to snakes the laughing jackass likes lizards. As the park funds hardly warrant getting him a daily supply of delicious reptiles he usually has to put up with chunks of fresh meat and occasional worms.

In Australia, where laughing jackasses generally do as they please, they make constant war on snakes. The bird will pounce down on one like a hawk, grab it back of the head and quickly rise to a considerable height, when he will let the snake drop to the ground. The snake will be stunned by the fall and will no sooner strike the ground than the laughing jackass is thrashing it about preparatory to a speedy meal. The bird is there often called the "squatter's clock," because at six o'clock every evening they everywhere set up a concert of "Ha! ha! ha!"

Bucklen's Arnica Salve.

The best salve in the world for cuts bruises, sores, ulcers, salt rheum, fever sores, tetter, chapped hands, chilblains corns and all skin eruptions, and positively cures piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Slocum-Johnson Drug Company.

Prevent and cure Constipation and Sick-Headache, *Small Nile Beans.*

A PREHISTORIC MONARCH

Valuable Archæological Discovery in Arizona.

The Curious Contents of an Ancient Tomb Which Was Discovered by Workmen in Excavating for a Large Building.

While removing the earth for the foundation of a new hotel to be erected at Crittenden, Ariz., the diggers discovered what seems to be the tomb of a king, though of what people it would doubtless puzzle an antiquarian to say. The workmen had penetrated at some eight feet below the surface of the ground what they took to be stone of a soft, friable nature, but which was evidently masonry of very superior workmanship when they reached the tomb itself. This was composed of large square blocks of stone, which was identified as red or rose granite, and cemented together with such skill as to at first cause the whole, measuring twelve by fifteen feet, to appear as a solid mass. The opening of this, while very difficult, as the use of powder was prohibited by the archæologists placed in charge of the exhumation by the authorities, was accomplished by night, when the interest and curiosity of the party was so great that the work was continued by lamplight till dawn.

The tomb when opened, says the Philadelphia Times, was found to contain a gigantic image of a man lying at full length and made of clay mixed with a sort of preparation which gives it a bright blue color and a slight elasticity, the whole appearing to have been subjected to great heat. The image represents the naked figure, except for a very tight girdle about the waist, a pair of close-fitting sandals and a crown on the head shaped very much like a bishop's miter, but topped with the head of a hawk or eagle. The features are roughly molded, are of an imperious cast, and of a man in middle age, with a prominent nose and a very wide mouth, but with cheekbones so low as to preclude all idea that the original could have been an Indian. The hands, which are as small as a woman's, and bear on the backs the head of the bird, as on the crown, are crossed on the breast and hold an image about three inches long, of a squatting figure, probably that of a god. The feet are also crossed, the right presenting the peculiarity of possessing a sixth toe, which the sandal is cut to bring into prominence, as if the owner had prided himself on it. The hair of the image is dressed in thick curls on both sides of the head, reaching to the shoulders, and brought down to the brows over the forehead.

Careful examination of this clay figure revealed that it was merely the elaborate coffin of the real body and could be opened from the back. This was done with all possible care so as not to disturb the remains within, but a few handfuls of dust, dark brown and almost impalpable powder, is all that was left of the body. The crown, however, together with the girdle, the image of the god, and a large battle-axe with a blade of sharp glass or obsidian, and a handful of petrified wood were found in the coffin.

The crown is of thick red gold, carved with minute but well executed drawings, representing battle scenes, triumphal marches, and other pictures the meaning of which is somewhat misty, but in all the principal figure is that of a man with six toes on his right foot. The workmanship of the whole crown is very fine, and the bird's head on the top is a masterpiece worthy of Cellini. It holds in its mouth a magnificent Chalchuites, or green diamond, valued by the Aztecs, which shows some attempts at lapidification.

The girdle found is composed of plates of gold arranged like scales and very thin, so as to give with every movement of the wearer's body. On each of these plates, which is in shape a half ellipse, is engraved a figure or hieroglyphics, conveying, however, no hint of their meaning in their form. The image of what is, presumably, a god is made of clay combined with the preparation spoken of before, and also burnt till thoroughly hardened. It represents a male being seated upon a pedestal in a squatting posture, its eyes squinting, and grinning in hideous mirth, while both hands are placed over the ears, as if to shut out sound.

A peculiar thing about this image is that its hair is represented as hanging down its back in one long plait like a Chinaman's. The figure is hollow, but contained only half a dozen small black pebbles, highly polished, and a somewhat larger stone of a dull gray hue. The coffin and these relics are now on exhibition, and are to be donated to the State Museum of History and Archæology at Tucson. No clue of any value as to what race the remains are to be ascribed can be found, but it is probable that it was one antedating the Aztlan and even the mound-builders, and superior to both in knowledge of masonry, sculpture and the working of metal.

THE WESTERN PEDAGOGUE.

We are in receipt of the May number of our state school paper. It exceeds any of the former numbers in value. The paper this month contains many new and valuable features. The illustrated series on the schools of the state is introduced by a paper on the Friends Polytechnic Institute at Salem, Oregon. These papers cannot fail to be of great value both to the schools and to the public.

There are also several fine articles by our best writers and the departments, "Current Events," "Saturday Thoughts," "Educational News" "The Oracle Answers, Correspondents," etc., each contain much valuable reading for teachers or parents. The magazine has about 50 pages of matter, well printed and arranged. We pronounce the Western Pedagogue the best educational monthly on the coast.

Everyone of our readers should have the paper if they are at all interested in education. No teacher school director or student can get along well without it. We will receive subscriptions at this office. Price only $1.00 a year. When desired we will send the Western Pedagogue and Gazette one year to one address for $3.00. Call and examine sample copies. Teachers, directors and parents, now is the time to subscribe. tf

OF GENERAL INTEREST.

—A London paper tells of a dog which, having run away from its new master, traveled fifty miles over an unknown country to its old home, arrived there the day after starting.

—An officer who bought for a trifle an old desk in Montreal was led by marks on the cover to make an investigation, that proved the article one of such historic interest that the English government has given him one thousand dollars for it.

—A big poplar tree was felled at Utica, Ind., recently, and as it struck the ground a large limb broke off, in the heart of which was found the antlers of a deer, a cow's horn and a number of curious shells. The mystery is how they got there.

—A prominent ranchero of the Upper Platte valley, Wy. T., lately issued an odd challenge to the betting fraternity of the universe. He will wager his place and stock against $10,000 that in any stated hunting season within three years he will, unaided, kill fifty grizzly bears in the Elk Mountain and Medicine Bow ranges.

—A family in Henry County, Ga., consists of three mothers, three sons, two grandmothers, three grandsons, one great-grandmother, one daughter-in-law, one husband, one grand-daughter-in-law, two brothers, one daughter, two great-grandsons, one wife, two widows, one grandmother-in-law, and there are only six in the family.

—A Murfreesboro (Tenn.) woman went into the post-office and demanded a letter. When told that there was none she said she knew there was, and made the clerk look four or five times. When she became finally convinced she left the office in a great rage, saying that she was going to make that old colored fortune-teller refund the money she had paid her.

—Parisians have lately been entertained by a remarkable artist who displays wonderful skill in her peculiar form of painting. With plates of various colored sand before her, she takes the sand in her right hand and causes it to fall in beautiful designs upon a table. A bunch of grapes is pictured with violet sand, a leaf with green sand, the stalks with brown sand, and relief and shadows by other sands; when the work is brushed away a bouquet of roses and other objects are represented with the same dexterity and delicacy.

—The most polite nation in diplomatic intercourse is Belgium. When the Belgian authorities addressed a letter to this Government asking if the United States still claimed as citizens all children of alien parents born here, the communication closed with: "I should be grateful if your Excellency would have the great kindness to furnish me with this document and give me the information desired. Thanking your Excellency in advance, I embrace," etc. Wishing to know what were the regulations of the United States in regard to peddling, the Belgian Minister concluded with: "I have the honor to have recourse to your Excellency's good offices, begging you to be pleased to acquaint me with the laws and regulations which are in force in the United States regarding peddling. I avail myself," etc.

A New Trick.

Pick-pockets are now trying a new dodge in Paris; it takes two or three to "work" it. One jostles against the intended victim and contrives to drop a lighted cigar in his overcoat pocket. A few minutes later a couple of strangers hurry up to him, exclaiming: "Monsieur, your overcoat is on fire;" and, with the utmost politeness they squeeze and compress the burning cloth, profiting, it is needless to say, by the opportunity to relieve the pocket of whatever of value it may contain.

The World's Metropolis.

The London of to-day, with its millions of inhabitants, includes more Scotchmen than there are in Edinburgh, more Irish than there are in Dublin, more Jews than there are in Palestine, and more Americans than there are in Kalamazoo.

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