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TWELFTH YEAR | HEPPNER, MORROW COUNTY, OREGON, TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 1894. | WEEKLY NO. 578. SEMI-WEEKLY NO. 219.

SEMI-WEEKLY GAZETTE.

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Tuesdays and Fridays
—BY—
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OTIS PATTERSON.....Editor

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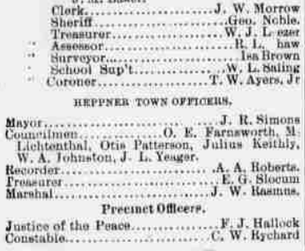

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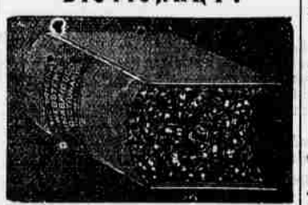

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AT AN IRISH WAKE.

Unique Features of a Funeral Observance on the Old Sod.

How Celtic Mourners "Irrigate" the Dead—Chatting and Story Telling Around the Corpse—The Mutinous Pipe and Black Snuff.

The custom of "waking" the dead in Ireland, says the London Spectator, though by no means existing in its ancient glory and vigor, still obtains in a modified and shorn form in many country districts. Briefly described, it amounts to this—that the neighbors of the deceased assemble and spend the night in the room with the corpse, chatting and telling stories; in the meanwhile, of course, taking "a blast av the pipe," and a drop of "the craythure" to sustain them during their vigil. The conversation on such occasions naturally turns, to a large extent, to the virtues of the departed, which are duly embellished with all the natural eloquence of the speakers. No one unfamiliar with Ireland can at all realize what a scene a "wake" presents, and we propose to give a sort of specimen of the conversation which prevails on such an occasion.

"An ould follyer" is generally in a seat of honor, close by the head of the bed; she has been a nurse, perhaps, in the family, and as she rocks her aged body backward and forward she pours forth with a mellifluous Southern brogue, in a sad, wailing tone, a long piece of delightfully discursive domestic history. "Ah, wisha, wisha, lave me alone, the masther was a grand man; Thade Regan was the grand man; he milked up to forty cows." (This implies that he was a dairy-farmer whose stock amounted to that number.) "Share it's meself remimbers the day av his weddin'; Lard Edward was at horse at the time by the same token, an' as he wint by our cabin I heerd me mother to say: 'By gar, there's th' lard up!' An' shure enough he was, for he was on his way to Tim Hoolahan's, who was minding thirty hogs for him. 'Turn thim out, Tim,' says the lard, 'turn thim out,' says he, 'for I want to choose out two av thim,' says he. 'To be shure, and why not, your honor's glory, me lard?' says Tim; and, whin he had thim out, the lard makes chice av wan widout a tail, an' av anoder widout an ear! An' thin he says to Tim, says he: 'Have thim two bastes kilt,' says he, 'an' give them to the people that's comin' to Thade Regan's weddin',' says he, 'for their dinner,' says he. Ah, wisha, deeling, but the lard was mighty fond av poor Thade; may God be wid thim both! An' don't I well remimber the time that poor Thade, rest his sowl, bought a farm near the red bog an' how I attinded at the dinner that same day."

At this juncture, another speaker, thinking he should have an innings, offers the nurse a drink; and while she is occupied with it he observes: "Wisha, awenoch, it was the poor masther that was fand av his marning drop; many's the time he'd take me wid him into Judy Molan's little public, an' he'd say: 'Judy,' he'd say, 'give Nicholas something to warm him, and take the could out av his stumick this frasthy morning.' An' by and by he'd say: 'Nicholas, man, won't ye have a glass?' an' I'd tell him I had wan; but he'd say: 'Don't tell me; you had not;' an' av coorse I'd say: 'It isn't for the likes av me to contradict a gintleman like your honor,' an' Judy would fill it up again."

A driver of a hearse who was present would add reflections which seemed to him suitable to the occasion: "I tell ye's all that I have been a driving a hearse man an' boy these twinty years an' more. I have druv' rich an' poor; an' whin the wind was an me back, the smell av them both was just alike; an' I didn't like it nather. And whin I comes across a man who has two or three hundred pounds, an' sees all his capers an' antics, I says to meself: 'What a gladiathur ye are; but wait, me boy, until I have ye in the hearse, an' then ye'll be quiet an' aisy enough.' Shure I wanst druv a jedge to the graveyard; an' I saw the yalla clay shoveled down on him as well as another—an' he rotting wid money. God save us!" This observation called forth a general exclamation: "Well, Ned, ye're a terror." The old nurse—"a charred and wrinkled piece of womanhood"—being now refreshed, would take up her parable again, and offer her snuff-box, or rather her snuff, to every one present. It was done in this way: holding the box in her right hand, she poured out some of its contents on the palm of her left. Whether you used the snuff or not, it was considered unlucky and uncivil to refuse to take a pinch of it.

Among the lower classes "wakes" are still very prevalent; beggars have their own "wakes," and even little children are "waked." A wake is quite an expensive ceremony to a poor, struggling working-man or tradesman; but he feels that he would loss caste without holding it, and he has not the moral courage to break through the custom. The expenses of a wake in the "strong" farming class are a very serious item, indeed. The Roman Catholic clergy nowadays generally or universally discourage this custom; but it is so deeply rooted that its eradication must be a question of time.

Interesting Exhibits.

Philadelphia will draw on Independence hall for some of the exhibits which are to represent the state at the world's fair. It has been decided by the committee in charge that the articles that were used by the continental congress, and which are now in the east room of the hall, including the desk, chairs and pictures of the signers of the declaration of independence, shall be sent to Chicago. The committee also wants to borrow the statue of William Penn, in order to set it up in front of the state building. Citizens of Philadelphia are offering some of their pictures for the art gallery. Among these are Giacomelli's fine painting, "The Festival of the Brides of Venice," and the mosaic picture known as "The Discovery of the Remains of St. Marcus." It contains over one million pieces, and seven years were spent in the composition.

GREAT PHOTOGRAPHY.

A Picture of Mont Blanc Taken from a Distance of Eight Miles.

The Marvelous Outcome of Four Months' Experimenting of a Noted Swiss Scientist—A Delicate and Difficult Process.

A truly marvelous development in camera work is what has been termed telephotography, whereby pictures of distant objects can be made with the same clearness and sharpness of detail as if they were close at hand. But to secure a successful picture by this process many difficulties have usually to be contended with, and according to the St. Louis Globe-Democrat it is comparatively seldom that the most favorable conditions occur. The main difficulty is the presence in the air of minute particles of dust. In large towns, and even in their neighborhood, the air is filled with an inconceivable quantity of such particles, and the result is a grayness of the atmosphere, which, on the photographic negative, blurs the outline of remote objects. Where these conditions obtain it is possible to procure a good proof only in the morning after a nocturnal shower has cleared the air. Such is the absorbent power of dusty air that all attempts at taking long distance photographs in the vicinity of Paris, where much experimenting was done, resulted unsatisfactorily beyond a range of thirty-two hundred yards, even when the occasion was apparently propitious. In the neighborhood of the sea and of the mountains, where the air is much purer, photographs can be made at much greater distances; but here a single obstacle presents itself in the unequal density of the various strata of air. Especially in hot weather, certain beds of air, heated by the rays of the sun, will be actuated by an upward movement and this imparts a trembling appearance to the landscape. The presence of rivers or marshes, or land much exposed to the solar rays, is likely to give rise to vertical currents of vapor of great absorptive power. Again the humid vapors of the atmosphere clothe far distance with a bluish haze, which confuses the lines of the picture and obscures the effects of light and shade. This is remedied by employing orthochromatic lenses and a yellow glass to neutralize the blue tint. The camera must be absolutely still, the most minute vibration being multiplied indefinitely and causing hopeless confusion in the negative.

It will thus be seen that telephotography is both a difficult and a delicate process. A most remarkable illustration of its possibilities has been achieved by M. Boissonnas, of Geneva, in a photograph of Mont Blanc, taken at a distance of eight and one-half miles. The proof has been published by M. Fourtier, who also shows, in order to suggest more strongly the wonderful nature of the achievement, the size the picture would be if taken by an ordinary object glass. The latter measures nine and one-sixteenth inches by three-eighths inches, and the telephotograph is five and three-fourths inches by three and three-fourth inches. The lines of the massive, far-off mountain stand out in bold relief, and the details of the interviewing country are distinctly shown. Such a picture, however, is not made without almost unlimited pains and perseverance. It cost M. Boissonnas four months of experimenting before he could determine on the best place and the best time at which to take it. For the benefit of those who may have to tread wearily over the same ground, he tells the condition that obtained at the eventful moment. It was six o'clock in the evening, about twenty minutes before the sun sank behind the mountains. From experience he found that this was the most favorable moment to obtain a harmonious proof, and the distinctness of outline and details in the clouds was greatly increased from the fact that they were tinged first with a pale yellow and then with orange.

RICH AMERICAN BONDHOLDERS.

The Names of These Favorites of Fortune Kept Secret by the Treasury.

The millionaire is commonly represented as engaged in clipping coupons from bonds. This is an egregious error, says the Washington Star. Rich men, as a rule, do not hold coupon bonds. The reason is quite obvious. Such bonds are not safe property. They are always payable to bearer, like treasury notes. If lost the government will not replace them. Accordingly, for the sake of security, people are constantly exchanging them for registered bonds. Thus the sum total of coupon bonds outstanding, which is now about $70,000,000, is all the time diminishing. They are mostly in the hands of small holders. With the registered bonds it is quite different. They are rich men's property par excellence. At present about $200,000,000 worth of them are held by private individuals. Of this great sum $87,000,000, or not far from one-half, are owned by 1,000 persons, whose holdings average $80,000. The names of these fortunate individuals are kept secret by the treasury. Some of the fortunes possessed in this shape are enormous. Some of the greatest belong to the Vanderbilts. Old William H. Vanderbilt had $45,000,000 in registered bonds at one time.

New Granada Ink Plant.

There is a plant in New Granada known as the "ink plant," the juice of which serves, without the least preparation, as ink. The writing at first appears red, but in a few hours assumes a deep black hue. Several sheets of manuscript, written with this natural ink, became soaked with sea water on their journey to Europe, but when dried the writing was found to be still perfectly clear.

Produce $2 50 and get the Gazette for one year. Nice family paper, and built to paper cabins.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

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A FRIDAY BABEL.

When the English Fishmonger Begins to Bawl Language Lovers Take a Day Off.

There is considerable slang and good-natured chaffing among the buyers and sellers in the London Billingsgate, but one is not overwhelmed by that torrent of foul language he has been taught to expect from his associations with the word. The best time to visit the market is on Friday morning. The wooden, barn-looking square where the fish is sold is crowded soon after six o'clock with shiny cord jackets and greasy caps.

Everybody comes to Billingsgate in his worst clothes, and nobody knows the length of time a coat can be worn until he has been to a fish sale. Over the hum of voices are heard the shouts of salesmen, who, with white aprons, peering above the heads of the mob, stand on the tables roaring out their prices. All are bawling together—salesmen and hucksters of provisions, hardware and newspapers—till the place becomes a perfect Babel of competition.

St. Winifred's Well.

One of the most copious springs in Great Britain is the famed St. Winifred's well, near the town of Holywell, in Flintshire. The well is an oblong square, about twelve feet by seven, and its water, say the people of the district, has never been known to freeze. This latter assertion may be true, as, besides containing a fair percentage of mineral matters that lowers its freezing point, the well is inside a beautiful chapel, which was erected over it by Queen Margaret, the mother of Henry VII. The water thrown up is not less than eighty-four hogsheads every minute, and the quantity appears to vary very little either in drought or after the heaviest rain, showing doubtless that its primitive sources are numerous and widely distributed. St. Winifred's has been the object of many pilgrimages.

Interesting Experiments.

An uptown man having nothing else to do thought he would try an experiment, says the Philadelphia Record, so he turned the hands of a clock in his room the full twenty-four hours of a day and found it took, with moderate movement, one minute of time to accomplish that task. He then made a calculation of how long it would take him to turn off the full measure of a man's life, which, according to the Scriptures, is "three score years and ten," and found that it would take seventeen and one-half days to turn the hands of the clock to represent seventy years.

THE GREAT OCEAN CURRENTS

Some Singular Facts About These Little Understood Streams.

All the superficial parts of the western Atlantic, except the portion of its area next the coast of America, are pervaded by a slow movement which sets the water toward the poles, says Prof. N. S. Shaler in Scribner's. This current is due to the Gulf stream, which, emerging from the tropics as a deep, narrow, swift moving tide, skirts the southern coast of the United States, gradually widens like an opened fan, diminishing in depth and losing its velocity as it comes toward the Arctic circle. Although the speed of its northward going is here slight, it has sufficient energy to push back the floe-ice which may be driven southwardly by the winds, and thus limit its excursions to the American shore. Setting out into the Atlantic from Davis strait there is however, a strong stream of Arctic water, which, in part, slips under the Gulf stream tide, and in part flows on the surface of the sea next the Labrador coast. In the southward-setting current the floe-ice drifts with a speed of about a mile an hour down the American shore until it attains the mouth of the St. Lawrence. The Labrador current, as this southward-moving water is called, would, but for certain accidents of geography, send this floe-ice much farther to the southward than it now does. If Newfoundland and Nova Scotia should disappear, so that there could be a nearly straight shore from Greenland to Massachusetts bay, it is likely that these floes would in large quantities attain to the coast of New England, and give to the shore lands of that part of the continent the subarctic and inhospitable climate of the islands of the eastern St. Lawrence. This shore-current bears few true icebergs with the floe-ice, for the reason that these greater ice-islands are formed together on the Greenland shores, and pressed to the eastward by the prevailing winds, do not come into that superficial, shore-skirting, Labrador current.

Deeds, mortgages, etc., executed at the Gazette office.

THE WESTERN PEDAGOGUE.

We are in receipt of the May number of our state school paper. It exceed 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

G. A. R. NOTICE.

We take this opportunity of informing our subscribers that the new commissioner of pensions has been appointed He isan 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 their 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 385 tf.

HIS FATHER WAITED.

But He Finally Succeeded in Reaching the Presence of His Son.

The boat was pulled by a couple of boys and was headed for the White Squadron, says the New York Commercial Advertiser. It was about the hour when the gentle gurgle from a five-gallon milk can, as its contents are scooped out into pails, resembles the melody of "The Old Oaken Bucket."

In the sternsheets sat a living picture of "your Uncle Reuben." The swash from his coat tails hid a clean-cut trail through the blue waters, and his whiskers were filled with salt.

Swiftly the boat swept by the Chicago, Newark and Boston, but was almost swamped by the old man's efforts to "gee" alongside the Concord.

The marine on duty ordered the boat to keep away, giving as his authority the general order that no visitors were to be allowed aboard. The old man carefully laid a big piece of tobacco on the gangway grating and said:

"Young man, you want to make a bee line for that big fellow in the white panties with a sword on his port quarter. You tell him his father is getting his constitution ruined waiting to see him, and if there are any fences in the way I advise you to climb them unless you want to hear from old New Hampshire."

In less than fifteen minutes the old man took possession of the entire wardroom, and the officers were proud of their guest.

A good thing for you to do is to subscribe for the Gazette.

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DR. PRICE'S Cream Baking Powder.

The only Pure Cream of Tartar Powder.—No Ammonia, No Alum.
Used in Millions of Homes—40 Years the Standard.