

**Maine Region Where the Inhabitants Have One Leg Longer Than the Other.**

There is a hilly and indefinite locality on the border land of Poland and Raymond known as the Blackcat. Tradition says that this name was bestowed on the locality because in prehistoric times a wandering hunter from the coast settlements came upon a gigantic black wildcat and had a terrific battle with him somewhere in these hills. In course of time the country became settled, but the recollection of this battle clung to the hills, and so we have the name of Blackcat to this day, says the Portland (Me.) Advertiser.

A man traveling this section a year or two since observed that all the inhabitants were lame, or seemed to be, and even the cows had "a slouch in their gait." This so impressed him that he asked a native whom he met the cause of it. The native looked at the stranger and then at the surrounding hills and then answered: "Well, you see, their folks has ter work on er side hill all their life. They begin when they're chil'un and pick berries an' keep it up when they grow older an' plant taters an' cut hoop-poles on their hills. Yer see, one leg has ter kinder stretch down ter git er footin' an' tother kinder shrinks up to 'commode the first un, so, yer see, it's nat'ral ter go one-sided."

**Willie Was Excused.**

The following note was recently received by a Higginsville (Kan.) school teacher: "Respected Miss: please excuse Willie for absents. He fell downstairs just before school time and we feared his internal insides was hurt at first, but they ain't. The doctor says that no part of his anatomy was hurt, but the brewing of the epydermis of the outside hip and also his hipp hurt some. But he narrowly escaped fatal death. So kindly excuse."

**MOSQUITO IN WINTER.**

Just Sleeps Awhile and Comes Out Fresh for Business in Warm Weather.

A fresh contribution to mosquito literature is a pamphlet issued by the board of health of Belmont, Mass., for the instruction of the people of that town in dealing with the nuisance. It is written by William Lyman Underwood, lecturer in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The pamphlet advises the use of kerosene on all water where the mosquitoes may breed and of pyrethrum powder in the house to kill or stupefy the adult mosquito. Prof. Underwood says:

"It is very generally believed that mosquitoes bite but once and then die. This is sometimes so; but unless they are killed in the act of biting they usually live to bite again. The female mosquito (for it is only the female that attacks human beings) bites many times. It is owing to this fact that they are able to convey the germs of malarial fever from person to person.

"The vast majority of mosquitoes never get human blood for food. In its absence they live upon the bloods of birds and other animals, and, when they are not to be found, upon the juices of young and tender plants.

"It is not known just how long mosquitoes can live, but their average life is much longer than is ordinarily supposed."

**DOGS NOT WELCOME.**

Just at Present They Are Unpopular at Leicester.

It will be remembered that the poor Indian, upon whose untutored mind the poet condescendingly comments, is exhibited to us as being under the erroneous impression that, when he shall be promoted to an equal sky, his faithful dog will bear him company, says the Pall Mall Gazette. The most sophisticated mind of the average Briton does not, perhaps, carry the conception so far; still, that Briton's idea undoubtedly is that where he goes his dog, at his charges, may go too. It would be well, therefore, to point out at any rate just at present he and his dog would not go to Leicester, because, though the Leicester hotel keepers would be quite ready and willing to receive him, they would in all probability absolutely decline to receive—or, in legal phrase, to harbor—his canine companion.

The reason for their declining to do so lies in the fact that a Leicester hotel keeper has recently, in the opinion of the lord chief justice and Mr. Justice Wright, harbored a visitor's dog once too often. This particular dog belonged to A. B., another visitor, at the same hotel, must needs take the dog for a drive in a cab. The dog may have been dissatisfied with the turnout, or he might have had private ends of his own to gain; but, anyhow, he bit the cab horse. The driver proceeded for compensation—not against B., through whose instrumentality the dog had been put in the way of biting the horse, nor against A., who, as owner, might have been considered responsible for the dog's actions. The driver knew his dog owner's act (1865), section 2, better than that. He proceeded against the occupier of the house or premises where the dog was permitted to live—the hotel keeper, to wit, and he triumphed. That is why Leicester hotel keepers decline to harbor dogs just now.

The news of both hemispheres—in The Weekly Oregonian.

**TOOTH DRAWING.**

Its Horrors Ameliorated Somewhat by the Use of Electricity.

If you like you can now have a tooth pulled painlessly and without gas by electricity. Instantaneous? Why, of course; but the point is that there is no pain. You need not bother with nitrous-oxide gas, which is very distressing in its effects upon some people, says the Cincinnati Enquirer.

The up-to-date dentist has a very simple apparatus, which consists most importantly of a battery not much bigger than a cigar box. The person in the dentist's chair grasps two handles which are connected with the battery by wires. At the same time the operator seizes his forceps, which likewise are on the end of a wire proceeding from the battery. He touches the tooth, completing the circuit, and instantly a local anaesthesia is produced. The tooth and neighboring gum are rendered for the moment insensible to pain, and out comes the offending molar or incisor with a dexterous twist. Before the patient has had time to realize what has happened he is gleefully paying the fee.

**Some Odd Nicknames.**

Nearly every prominent man of title in England has a nickname and some of these cognomens are a trifle odd. For instance, Sir Michael Herbert, British minister to Washington, is known as "Mungo," just why does not seem to be clearly known; the duke of Westminster is called "Bend-Or," which was a Derby winner owned by his grandfather; the duke of Marlborough is "Sunny," from Sunderland, one of his many second titles, and Lord Granville Gordon has his life answered to the name of "Granny."

**DROLL SORT OF DUEL.**

How a French "Sparrow" Fought with a "Blackbird" Up a Tree.

One day the famous duelist, Pierrot d'Isaac, went to see his friend, Marquis Merle de Sainte-Marie, says the St. Louis Mirror. It should be explained that in French pierrot means sparrow and merle means blackbird. "Marquis," said d'Isaac, "I am a Bonapartist and you are a royalist. Moreover, I am the sparrow and you are the blackbird. Doesn't it strike you that there is one bird of us too many?" "It precisely does," said the marquis; "my choice is pistols, and, as is appropriate for birds of our species, let us fight in the trees." As if it were not a sufficiently ridiculous thing that one man should challenge another because his name was Sparrow and the other Blackbird, the duel was actually fought from trees, the seconds standing on the ground below. The pistols were fired at the signal. There was a rustling among the leaves of one of the chestnut trees. It was Pierrot d'Isaac who, wounded severely in one leg, came tumbling to the ground. At this point the marquis began to chirp triumphantly, imitating the song of the blackbird. This was a fresh insult, to be atoned in only one way, and d'Isaac waited for his wound to recover to challenge Sainte-Marie for the chirp. This time the duel was fought with swords, and Sainte-Marie was badly wounded—the sparrow had avenged himself on the blackbird.

The problem of naval success in war is a problem of coal. A fleet cannot operate with success if it must limit itself to defensive operations with a home base; it must be ready to strike offensively in the spot where the stroke will be the most effective, and to do this it must have access to coal supply at widely distributed points.

The report of Admiral Bradford, chief of the equipment bureau of the navy, shows how we are progressing toward a provision of sources of coal supply. The progress is slow, but a gain is being made. We are as yet without a proper equipment of coaling stations on our own coast; and while we now have coaling stations on Mexican and Japanese territory, we have none in Cuba, and none in the direction of Europe. In the Pacific and in Philippine waters we shall soon be so well equipped in this line that we shall not be at a disadvantage in the far east. An immense sum has properly been spent in the last fiscal year to deposit American coal at these widely scattered stations from Pichilique, Mexico, through Hawaii, Tutuila and Guam to Japan and the Philippines. Another war would not see our navy so nearly paralyzed by a coal famine, says the Black Diamond, nor so dependent on the friendly offices of another power, as it was in the Spanish war.

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**LOCAL MARKETS.**

Heppner Quotations on Staples Bought and Sold Here.

**RETAIL GROCERY PRICES.**

COFFEE—Mocha and Java, best 50c per pound; next grade, 45c per pound; package coffee, Lion and Arbuckle, 20c lb; Columbian coffee, 6 packages for \$1.  
RICE—Best head rice 10c per pound; next grade 6½ cents per pound.  
SUGAR—Cane granulated, best \$6 85 per sack; do 13 pounds \$1.  
SALT—Coarse 75c per 100; \$15.00 ton.  
FLOUR—\$4 65@5 00 per barrel.  
BACON—15@20c per pound.  
HAMS—16@18c per pound.  
COAL OIL—\$1 45@1 75 for 5 gallons; \$3 25 per case.

**VEGETABLES.**

POTATOES—1c per pound.  
CABBAGE—4c per pound.  
ONIONS—3c per pound.

**FRUITS.**

APPLES—Green 2c per pound.  
BANANAS—40c per dozen.  
LEMONS—30c per dozen.  
ORANGES—40c@60c per dozen.

**LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY.**

Prices paid by dealer to the producer.  
CHICKENS—\$3 50@4 00 per dozen.  
BUTTER—ranch, 50 and 60c per roll.  
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**BEEF CATTLE, ETC.**

COWS—\$2 50@3 00 per hundred.  
SHEEP—\$3 50@2 75 per hundred.  
VEAL—Dressed, 6c per pound.  
SHEEP—\$3 50@4 00.  
HOGS—Live, 5½c@5c; dressed, 6c @7c per pound.

**HEROISM IN ANIMALS.**

Illustrated by a Ram That Defended a Flock of Sheep.

A writer on natural history complains that men are prone to regard masculine courage in defense of others as a virtue purely human. In reality, self sacrificing for the female sex or for the young is part of the scheme of nature, and every male thing is strong and splendid in appearance because he is the descendant of those who have proudly held and guarded "the privilege of death." Another writer tells a story which illustrates this point. Two otomologists, hunting at night, clambered over a gate with their swinging lanterns and found themselves in a field filled with sheep. The result of their coming was panic and a furious stampede. The sheep charged helter skelter away from the lanterns and huddled together at the far end of the field. But there was a ram among them, and as the flock scurried away this creature stood firm, covering the retreat. Then, steadily and majestically, the huge ram advanced with lowered head toward the mysterious lights and pressed them back to the gate. This is only one graphic story of many that might be told of masculine courage throughout nature. Man has some virtues which animals, so far as we can judge, know nothing about, but heroism—the pride of affording protection to the weak and daring death for the security of the flock—is not a human attribute alone any more than is maternal affection.

Cleanse your system of all impurities this month. Now is the time to take Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. It will keep you well all summer. 35 cents, Tea or Tablets.—W. P. McMillan, Lexington, Or.



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**Morrow County, Oregon.**

Morrow County is a new country, and like all other new countries, is awaiting development.

Located in the Columbia river valley, and skirted on the South with a spur of the Blue mountains, within the boundaries of Morrow county is a territory 75 miles in length by 35 miles in width, and containing 1,313,280 acres of land. Formerly stockraising was the principal industry, but lately the fertility of the land is bringing agriculture to the front. Immense wheat crops are grown with little cultivation, the soil being mixed with a volcanic ash which is very rich in wheat-producing qualities. The 1904 crop will aggregate 1,400,000 bushels, much of it from virgin soil.

Morrow county has thousands of head of sheep, horses and cattle. The wool production for 1904 was 2,500,000 pounds. Alfalfa and fruit growing are profitable industries, rapidly growing in importance. The county has also a great coal field, soon to be developed.

**The Heppner Gazette**

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