

WEEKLY STATESMAN

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A SEASON OF ROOMS.

The Chicago Journal of Commerce quotes "Pig Iron" Benner, as having said that, according to the tides of business, 1886 and 1887 were to witness the beginning of the biggest boom the world ever saw.

Looking around, it appears that "Pig Iron" was a successful prophet.

From Maine to California, and from Key West to the Straits of Fuca comes reports of wonderful activity in all financial and industrial circles.

Take first, the railroads. It is had from reliable authority that not a ton of first class rails can now be contracted for at any of the principal steel mills in the country, nor will the mills take contracts for light sections. The total capacity of the Bessemer steel rail mills is taken to next October, and many railroads will have to use second class rails in building. There are now but very few rolling mills shut down, and they are only waiting to secure competent and trustworthy labor.

Since November last, contracts for steel rails to be delivered during this year have been made for over 1,750,000 tons, exclusive of many smaller lots.

This indicates a boom in railroad construction.

The states of Indiana, Ohio, and many others are becoming alive with the first principles of manufacture—cheap fuel. Throughout the west industrial development is going on. In all departments of digging in the earth, utilizing water power, harnessing the elements, and the more economical making of the raw material into manufactures, the whole country is alive.

This indicates an industrial, and manufacturing boom.

In all kinds of mining, there has not been such activity and interest since the early days of California and Nevada. This mining boom extends throughout the union. The interest in the gold, silver, copper, coal, lead and iron of the Rocky mountains, and Northern Pacific coast districts was never so alive and active; along Lake Superior, there is great briskness; Oregon is awakening rapidly to the wealth of her mineral deposits, and much is being done towards developing them.

This is also a good sign of a healthy business condition of the country.

Go all through the south and west, and wide-awake, prompt and diligent attention is being paid to all things respecting finance. The producer is the person now feeling the boom. In general business with professional men, middlemen of the day feels dull and uninteresting. The boom has not struck there yet; for this is a producing country, and every person needs to see that he is producing something, in order to feel the strength of the movement. It certainly can be said without fear of contradiction, that the American producer is in better condition to-day, than he has been for many years. That person who is only a consumer and who creates nothing, will probably not realize the condition of things, except that, perhaps, he may find his actual living expenses in a measure increased, by the higher prices that are sure to follow increased demand.

However, there is a boom, and it is getting a good start in Oregon. Real estate is easier sale than formerly, and there is more call for it. The wealth of the country is being increased daily by the arrival of a desirable class of immigrants. They are coming to Salem, every day, and many of them are locating in this section. The boom is coming, and the immigrant is the "boomer."

The old song is now revised to read thusly:

"Hark, hark, the dogs do bark, The boomers are coming to town; Some in rags, some in tags, But most—in velvet gowns."

LAMONT is a very handy man for President Cleveland. Were it not for this "man Friday," Cleveland would no doubt be continually making awful "breaks," that would bring the ridicule and disgust of the people upon him. When the president's opinion is asked, Mr. Lamont answers in polite, but evasive terms, and the inquirer is left almost, if not quite as intelligent upon the point as he was before. This was the success that a committee had which went to learn the president's opinion upon coercion. Since he has been married, no doubt, the president has very positive views on the subject of coercion, but he discreetly keeps them to himself.

THERE is being more interest taken in this city now, than there has been before for several years. The transfers are increasing every day, and good prices are paid.

EASTER.

In the reaction from an excess of holy days we are liable to go further in an opposite extreme than is profitable. As Anglo-Saxon Christians, we must acknowledge the Roman Catholic church as, at least, our great-grandmother, and we claim a share in her wealth of tradition and legend of which our knowledge is not willing to be defrauded.

Because shortsighted souls are always prone to make a holy-day of more importance than the thought typified in it, we ought not to be too ready to put aside day and thought alike, as of no value. We may, as our Puritan ancestors did, rebel against the rules of the earlier church, or we may ignore without protest all her feasts and feast days; yet we cannot escape the Lenten thrall of winter. It is as if the Over-ruling Power, seeing the prodigality of harvest time, institutes a season of quiet and abstinence; the sorrows and deprivations of this world thus typified form a basis upon which we build our hopes of a better life. The feasts and gift giving of Christmas must needs be, and are fittingly followed by the seclusion and fasting of Lent.

The asceticism of Lent culminates on Good Friday. All the bitterness of the world's wrong-doing, all the grief and shame of disappointed hope are symbolized in the ceremonies of its observance. From the earliest days of the Christian era, devout souls have found a solemn satisfaction in recalling to mind all the tragic memories of the day. The scenes of the crucifixion are read for scripture lessons, but in early times an image of the dead Christ upon a crucifix, was borne around the altar in the churches amid doleful chants and piteous sobs. With the strongest demonstrations of grief the image was wept over, kissed and finally buried, and the grave covered with green sprays and flowers. Later on there were some pleasant ceremonies introduced to soften the hard sadness. One of these was the blessing of rings by the king and their distribution among the people as infallible cures for cramp. The faith in the efficacy of these cramp-rings was strong and very general. Is our faith in patent medicine a remnant of this older belief?

Here and there an austere soul would fain fill the whole year with the spirit of Lent, but a vast majority welcome the coming of Easter. It was a happy, a true inspiration that put Easter in the spring-time, when even the dullest souls are stirred to new thought and hope by the miracles wrought before their eyes. Some sense of the subtle, infinite power that makes such vast preparation for the oncoming summer is born in every heart. Newspaper men scoff at the crude efforts poesy makes to express these perceptions. Nevertheless we all feel an interest in the work going on. Its wonderful extent and inconceivable (except after being seen) results achieved stimulate imagination and all that Easter signifies is the legitimate outgrowth of the season. The general use of eggs has a like explanation. The fact that a flying, singing creature is evolved from an egg is felt to be a token of hope to us. We eat our eggs on Easter morning, and in the strength derived therefrom we look forward into the hopeful future. The spring-time, the Sabbath, the Easter services are all symbols pointing to a new life. Happy the soul that shall receive the power to transmute the abundant material into personal qualities of charity, purity, and joy.

Modes of observance change, but the needs in human life that called them forth are always prevalent. It is noticeable that while dissenters often ignore Lent the custom of observing Easter is almost universal. It is well called the "Queen of Festivals." While we wait for the full realization of all our hopes, we accept the omens of the day and tender our kindly Easter greetings to all.

TIPPOO'S STILE.

Tipoo Tip, the nomadic African potentate, seems to be a man of business, quite capable of making his way in the world. With a large band of armed Arabs he meets a well equipped exploring expedition and informs the leader that he is prepared either to fight or to be employed. The result is that he is invariably employed and doubtless gets a good salary for his services. Henry M. Stanley acted with his usual sagacity in choosing to employ Tipoo rather than fight him. The explorer was wise, also, in honoring the swarthy chieftain with titular dignity and making him governor-general of Stanley Falls without first putting him through the ordeal of a competitive examination. Tipoo was strongly endorsed by ten thousand armed followers and was appointed without formality or delay. It is needless to add that he is in a condition to indulge freely in offensive partisanship without fear of losing his official head. The powerful help of Governor-General Tip will enable Mr. Stanley to march through the African wilderness without serious interference from wild and hostile tribes.

A RECENT report of the National Civil Service Reform League complains that there is not civil service reform enough about the present administration, especially in the postoffice and interior departments. We leave it to ten thousand disappointed democrats if here is not a chance for argument.

SLAVERY AND SLAVE TRADE IN BRAZIL.

Some years ago Brazil began to free her slaves under a plan of gradual, compensated, emancipation. Much opposition was encountered and the enemies of the movement have been able to hamper and neutralize legislation on the subject. The emperor is believed to favor abolition under proper conditions of time and manner, but lately he has been charged with reactionary tendencies, though well informed men claim that he merely questions the wisdom of certain details of the plans of the emancipationists. The African slave trade has been stopped, but there are still about 1,200,000 slaves in the empire, and under the present laws freedom comes to them slowly. Voluntary emancipation, under individual and associative auspices, has far outstripped governmental methods. The history of that movement is a remarkable record of liberal and enlightened action by a people, in a country and under conditions naturally unfavorable to the proposed reform. There remains, however, a large and compact body of slaveholders who strenuously resist change by both legal and illegal means. Not content with blocking legislation, they avoid and often defy its operation. In the more remote districts of the great empire the laws regarding emancipation are often almost a dead letter. The blacks are utterly ignorant of their rights, and their masters profit thereby. If recent advice are true these unscrupulous slaveholders not only hold by force and fraud those whom the law has loosed, but have inaugurated an active slave trade to increase their holdings. The consul-general of Columbia at Lima informs his government that Brazilian man-hunters are driving a brisk business by capturing Indians living in the wild regions along the course of the Napo, Putumayo and other affluents of the Amazon, and selling them into slavery to the Brazilian planters. The chief of this nefarious traffic is said to be a Brazilian, or Portuguese, who runs a steam launch, flying the Brazilian flag, in pursuit of his prey. Under these circumstances emancipation is likely to prove a slow operation. It is to the discredit of the good faith of the Brazilian government that this slave trade should be permitted on waters open to steam navigation and frequented by vessels engaged in legitimate trade.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS.

A New York dispatch, which refers to the usual contention there over the observance of Good Friday, opens the question, often debated but never settled, regarding all religious holidays in America. The telegram stated that Episcopalians, Roman Catholics and Israelites unite in desiring the suspension of trade, but the Puritan element protests against it; upon the ground that, while they do not object to other people keeping the fast, they do object to being obliged, against their wishes, to follow their example.

In a country like this, where there is no national religion and no possible connection between church and state, there is no valid argument that can be advanced in favor of making any day a religious holiday by operation of law. In fact, to do so is certainly to violate the spirit of the federal constitution and to forcibly impress sectarian views upon those who neither profess them nor are in sympathy with them. There is no more legal reason why Good Friday should be a legal holiday because the Episcopalians observe it than why Saturday should be because the orthodox Hebrews and the Seventh Day Adventists keep it as a holy day.

If the United States is to remain a country where all religions or no religion are all on the same legal footing, there can consistently be no legislation which shall give any preference to one sect or creed or church over any other. Even Sunday, which is universally a legal holiday, is such not because of its religious observances, but because experience has shown that at least one day's rest is necessary, and a great majority of people agree upon the first day of the week for that purpose. But in its religious aspect the modern sentiment is decidedly against enforcing its observance in any special way or at all.

Religion is not and cannot be a thing prescribed or regulated by statutory enactment. True religion presupposes a state of feeling purely esoteric, and which is not subject to legislation. Like morality, it cannot be created by law, nor does it depend for its existence upon statute. It exists, if it exists at all, independent of human laws or human regulations, and finds its reason for its being in hopes and aspirations which are a thing apart from all mundane considerations, and which neither ask nor need any human agencies to assist them.

Is the outward manifestations and observances of true religion the same thing holds true. A holiday is observed not because the state has prescribed a cessation from active business, but because such observance is held to be a duty and a mark of respect for some basic principle upon which such religion rests. Viewed in this light it must result that the compulsory suspension of business and the creation by the state of a religious holiday, is illogical and inconsistent with the idea of entire religious freedom which has ever been the boast of the American republic.

PROHIBITION.

EDITOR STATESMAN:—My objection to prohibition enactments is based upon their demoralizing effect upon society. This may seem strange to some but it is true nevertheless. Prohibition in its aims is an impossible agent. Men are creatures of their surroundings almost wholly, and especially with the young. A young man, if within the temptation and influence of liquor at fifteen years of age and continues the use of it, will never reform, that is not one in a hundred will stop its use. But if a young man does not know what liquor is until he is past his majority, when his habits are really fixed, he may quit and reform at any time with apparent ease. Men are equally susceptible in a moral point of view. If methods are used in business that are not legitimate and that business will be pursued law or no law, against it, there will be found those who will transact it. Men will yield to temptation to make money or for situations, especially where there is little probability of detection. The careful reader discovers prohibition has not closed the mouths of drinkers of liquors, nor has it deprived them of their beverage. There are lying and stealing done to get it. And there are thousands of men engaged in these indirect methods. The seller with a lie in his mouth has one equally demoralized—who receives the whisky in this way. We know of a case in point that will illustrate others. A gentleman travelling through a prohibitory state on a railroad stopped for dinner. He wanted a bottle of liquor and asked the landlord for it. He was told that it could not be had, that it was not kept in the hotel. After a few moments the traveller pressed his inquiry and insisted that he must have a bottle of liquor. The landlord repeated his falsehood, but began to size up the passenger who wanted a drink, and asked if he was a passenger on the train and was going on. The passenger told the landlord that he was to leave with the train, then he was told to wait a moment and the landlord appeared with a disguised bottle of whisky, received his pay for it, and the passenger boarded his train with a poorer opinion of the landlord than he had of the whisky. This is but one case in thousands where falsehood is resorted to in these cases. Then the deception practiced, the stealthy mode of procuring and delivering whisky all have their influence on character. Many men seek employment in these places, and they too, must be adroit in the essentials that make up the liar and thief. The regular customers are no better. Let these methods run through generation after generation, and what will such a race become? Children will be born to deceive, they will reverence nothing. And a lower standard of morals will prevail wherever the customs of the people induce it. There is nothing in either the promises of prohibition or its workings that are a benefit. It is impossible to prevent the sale and manufacture and sale of liquor. No sensible man will deny this, which, if true, implies a demand no law can check. Of all drinkers the most to be abhorred are those who dodge about, deceive and debase themselves to get their drinks. Prohibition does not prevent drinking; it only drives men into dark and low ways to get that which they will have as against law. Do we want to have this opinion of Oregonians? Do we want to realize that to the misfortune of drinking we must add a class of law breakers, liars and men of thievish instincts? What sort of a public sentiment would that be? Who could respect a law that really provided a greater evil on man than that it intended to remove? Public sentiment to be effective must be broad, open and generous. So the hardest heart may be reached. Put the liquor license high enough and public sentiment will do the balance. A public sentiment upon this subject that is not shocked by the criminal methods used to evade the law governing it will do more for temperance than all the deceptive prohibition traps set in the world—that can be sprung by the simplest mind. Give us a sound religious sentiment, a healthful and generous public opinion supplemented with a license demanded by this condition of things, and temperance and honesty will go hand in hand to their work. Let us not become a race of sneaks, nor allow any among us. We must not rob truth of its beauty by saying that the manufacture of liquors, the sale of it and its use can be stopped by inconsiderate legislative enactments. Prohibition has staggered through portions of our country for thirty years proves this.

TEMPERANCE.

BORROWING MONEY.

EDITOR STATESMAN:—I understand from articles I have read in the STATESMAN that Marion county at times borrows money with which to pay off county warrants. I understand that she has paid 8 per cent for this money.

I see by the council proceedings published in your paper that the city of Salem is able to borrow money, on a temporary loan, at 5 1/2 per cent.

Now I would suggest that when Marion county needs any more money, that she advertise for bids, or solicit bids in some other way, from those who have money to loan.

There is no business in paying 8 per cent for money, when the county can get all she needs at 6 per cent., and most likely at a much lower rate.

TAXPAYER.

THE ADDRESS.

EDITOR STATESMAN:—I desire to give a summary in your columns of an address on prohibition recently delivered in the M. E. church by Rev. F. P. Tower. M. C. WIRE.

Following is the summary:

The evils resulting from the use of intoxicating liquors is universally admitted to be very great. Even liquor dealers themselves concede this. Man's physical system is seriously impaired and through that the moral system is weakened so that any crime is possible. There are many in society thus impaired, hence the evil is very great. Large corporations are compelling their employees to sign the pledge, because life and property are too valuable to be entrusted to the care of men who are demoralized by strong drink?

So that this question affects not only the drinker but every one connected with him.

How can these evils be cured? Let not moral suasion be forgotten. It is the basis of all reform. Let the pulpit and the press everywhere advocate total abstinence. Let Bands of Hope be formed to educate the coming generation. Let every possible means be employed to enlighten public opinion and to lay upon men's conscience right views of living. Again the evils must be restrained by legal sanction. Some advocate a limited legal sale in high license, but it is not a remedy for social evils. Where are the statistics showing the benefits of high license? It is open to great objections. It puts power into the hands of a great monopoly. A few low groceries are closed out, but the business flourishes in gilded palaces, brilliantly lighted, and made attractive sometimes by music. Young men are attracted to these places who would not go to low groceries. The law already prohibits the sale of liquors to minors and common drunkards. This is good so far as it goes, but why not go a step farther? After reaching majority the law allows the saloon keeper to sell to any man until he becomes a common drunkard, when his health is gone, his money is gone, his good name is gone and he is thrown a burden upon society. Why should not the law refuse to be a partner in the manufacture of common drunkards? Prohibition is the only rational and practical solution to this question. No one expects that a prohibitory law will at once stop all drinking, for every law upon the statute books is broken. Prohibition has worked great reform in many places. Let us have it in Oregon.

If prohibition is the only rational and practical solution to this question, why is it that it is a failure in Maine, in Vermont, in Rhode Island, in Iowa and in Kansas? And why was it that it was a failure in Massachusetts and in Michigan, so signal a failure that the law was repealed? In the light of experience is it either "rational" or "practical"? The evils of the use of liquor are admitted, and the arguments for temperance and sobriety, for total abstinence, are endorsed and commended, but the means is the point of difference. It is the argument of fact against the fallacy of theory.

THE COERCION BILL.

The Coercion bill which the Conservative government has brought forward for Ireland, and which is just now attracting the undivided attention of the civilized world, is a sweeping one. It introduces an inquisitorial system, giving magistrates power to examine witnesses on oath even where no persons are charged with crime. This provision is foreign to the genius of the English law. To meet the difficulty of failing to get verdicts, the bill proposes to abolish jury trials altogether in certain classes of cases. It secures to the government a thorough control over the press by giving magistrates the power of summary conviction in cases of incitement to the commission of such acts as boycotting, conspiracy and rioting. Certain grave classes of crime committed in Ireland were to be tried in England under the bill as originally framed, but the cabinet has decided to abandon that provision, owing to the opposition it excited. The Viceroy of Ireland is to have power to proclaim societies found to be disturbing peace and order. The government asks that the permanency of the bill be not limited by any fixed time. Naturally, the government's proposition has aroused much opposition. It is denounced generally by the radical press and radical societies throughout the country. The measure is vehemently opposed by Mr. Gladstone as the worst proposition yet brought forward for dealing with the Irish difficulty.

J. L. Norton Carroll, residing at Far Rockaway, Queens Co., N. Y., was so crippled with inflammatory rheumatism of ten years' standing, that he had to use crutches. He was completely cured by taking two Brandreth's pills every night for thirty nights, and will answer any written or personal inquiries.

A PROGRESSIVE MOVEMENT.

The charter of the State Insurance Company, of this city, has been amended and supplementary articles of incorporation have been filed, authorizing the company to write mercantile and other business risks.

They commence to-day receiving applications upon that class of property. The risks will be carefully selected; the company will only write limited amounts and upon the best class of risks. The manager of the company has had many years of practical experience in this class of business, who, together with the directors, well known as careful and successful business men, will give it a very careful supervision.

The company possesses nearly one quarter of a million dollars of first class assets. It writes no risks outside of Oregon and Washington territory. Its assets, capital and reinsurance reserve are each larger than those possessed by any other company in the United States in proportion to the field in which they do business and the population of the same; and they are also larger in proportion to the amount of risks. The State has been in business here for a number of years, has always fulfilled its every promise, dealing honorably and fairly with all. No company offers better indemnity, if as good. It is perfectly reliable and trustworthy. Its history shows the smallest percentage of losses compared to premiums of any insurance company doing business on this coast. This shows the carefulness with which its risks have been selected, thus demonstrating the benefit of an able and experienced management.

It behooves all business people of the country, therefore, to patronize this safe home company, because: First, it is for the best interests of the country to patronize and build up such reliable institutions, and, secondly, the insured can confidently expect their money promptly when they suffer loss.

Gov. Larrabee, Iowa's able governor, in his inaugural last year said: "It would seem that Iowa capital and Iowa enterprise should be able to insure Iowa property as safely as non-resident companies. Reliable home companies [like the 'State'], being entirely under our control, should be encouraged to do this business. Home companies are more likely to do justice to their patrons, being nearer to them, and feeling therefore a greater sense of responsibility."

What is true of Iowa in these respects is most surely true of Oregon, and, together with the citizens of Oregon, we rejoice in this advance step of our progressive and reliable home company.

The jury that convicted Marple of murder in the first degree recommended the clemency of the judge. The "clemency" of the judge was exercised as the law directs in such cases. Marple was sentenced to be hanged.

TAKEN UP.

TAKEN UP BY THE UNDERSIGNED AT Hall's ferry, one saddle pony, saddle, blanket, white stripe in face. Owner can have same by proving property and paying charges. E. F. HALL, Hall's Ferry, 4-15-87.

NOTICE.

ALL PERSONS ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the county court of Marion county will refuse to allow any claims on account of pauper unless parties presenting said claims can produce authority from some member of the court for incurring the indebtedness. This notice is made necessary on account of the increasing number of bills presented for medical and other assistance rendered the county without authority. April 15th, 1887.

T. C. SHAW, County Judge. HENRY WARREN, G. F. TERRELL, County Commissioners.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT BY VIRTUE of an execution, decree and order of sale duly issued out of the Hon. circuit court of the State of Oregon for Marion county, and to me directed on the 11th day of April, 1887, whereby Gilbert Bro. recovered a judgment, decree and order of sale against A. J. Hagey, and judgment being for the sum of \$245.31, plus and interest thereon at the rate of ten per cent. per annum from the 12th day of February, 1886, together with all costs and disbursements and accruing costs herein, less the sum of \$29.92 paid thereon November 1st, 1886, I will sell at public auction on

Saturday, the 14th day of May, 1887.

At the court house door in Salem, Marion county, Oregon, at one o'clock p. m. of said day to the highest bidder for cash in hand on the day of sale, all the right, title and interest which the said A. J. Hagey had on or after the 28th day of April, 1886 (the date of said mortgage) in and to the following described premises, to-wit: The south half of the north half of the donation land claim of Catherine Hagey and the heirs of Andrew Hagey, claim No. 65, situated in township 7 south, range 2 west of Willamette meridian, in Marion county, Oregon. Issued at Salem this 11th day of April, 1887.

Sheriff Marion County, Oregon.

No Chestnuts, No Locomotives. A POSITIVE FACT. M. MITCHELL, OF GERVAIS, Has the finest display of Clothing, Gent's Furnishing Goods, Hats, Caps, Notions DIRECT FROM THE EAST, AND— At prices that defy competition, and cordially invites the public to inspect his stock. Come early and secure bargains at M. MITCHELL'S, Gervais, Oregon.