

The Wallowa Chieftain

JOSEPH, OREGON.
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Lowed to Lick the Teacher.

"Yes a minute, if you please," said a man in Western Nebraska, as he came out of a house and hailed us as we were going past. "Did you happen to notice the schoolhouse much when you come past it down here a mile?"

"Yes, we saw it."

"School wasn't called yet, I reckon?"

"No."

"Was the boys out havin' a ring-rattle an' whoopin a good deal like In-juns?"

"No, everything was very quiet."

"Schoolhouse broke up any—winders gone or door stove in?"

"Guess not."

"See anything of the teacher?"

"Yes, saw him through the door sitting with his feet on the desk reading a book."

"Was, hey? Seemed calm?"

"He appeared that way."

"See anything of a big, raw-boned boy, with long arms an' big hands, wearin' a big felt hat painted red, white, an' blue?"

"Yes, we noticed him."

"Wasn't he walkin' round talkin' loud, with his thumb under one gullus an' a chip on his shoulder?"

"No. He was sitting on the ground near the schoolhouse, with his back against a tree. His nose was all bloody, his arms were hanging down, and he looked sick. His clothes were about half torn off him, and one of the small boys was carrying his striped hat full of water to him from the creek."

"Well, I sw'ar if that don't beat me! Didn't holler no slang at you or offer to fight you?"

"I don't think he saw us at all—ono eye was closed up."

"I expect—nothing s'prises me now! I reckon the plan didn't work."

"What was it?"

"Why, that feller's my boy, you see, an' he lowed to lick the teacher this mornin', but I reckon from what you say something went wrong somewhere. The teacher give him a longer 'rithmetic lesson than he order, an' says I to him, 'Hop onto the little dood an' whale him—jes' show him that you understand what's the matter o' Hanner!' Bill said that he'd do it an' that I'd better see the other two school off'ers an' git another teacher somewhere, 'cause there wouldn't be enough o' this un left to wad a gun when he got done with him. Says he, 'Pap, don't be scared if you notice small pieces of a school teacher fallin' round here 'long durin' the forenoon! One eye shet an' his nose bloody! An' Bill a'ys claimed he was a fighter, too! I'll be teatified chawed if he ain't been trottin' in the wrong class for two years. When he gits home if I don't bring out the old strap an' larrup him-myself then you can shoot me. A black eye an' nose all bloody! Say, wait till half past four o'clock an' you'll see a big, lazy, double-fisted fraud of a boy git pounded all to pieces by his old fader!"

—Chicago Tribune.

Millions Squandered.

It seems probable that the final collapse of De Lesseps' Panama canal scheme is near at hand. Over \$200,000,000 have already been expended, and less than one-third of the work performed. Neither of the more serious of the problems to be solved have been attacked, which are the control of the Chagres River and the general question of drainage. The French Government has refused its sanction to a recent application of De Lesseps for permission to run a lottery scheme to raise funds for continuing the work of the canal, and the shares of the stock are rapidly depreciating in value in the market. The whole scheme now bids fair to end in total failure, involving the loss of all that has been expended. This loss represents the small savings of multitudes of the French people who, misled by the splendid promises of the canal projectors, have put the accumulation of years into its shares, expecting to realize a high rate of interest on the investment. The lesson to people in moderate circumstances is to keep clear of all schemes of investment represented by mining companies, cattle ranches, or other schemes which make promises of large returns for small investments. If one has a little surplus cash ahead he can always find opportunities for its safe investment near at hand and where it will be under his eye.—Farmers' Review.

A Harsh Imputation.

Wife—You say I ought to practice economy, John. Now, what did your dinner down-town cost you to-day?

Husband (a trifle weakly)—About \$3.

Wife—Heavens John, \$3 just for dinner.

Husband (a trifle indignantly)—Well, that included a bottle of wine of course. (More indignantly)—You don't suppose I would pay \$3 just for food, do you?—New York Sun.

Cataract Cured.

A clergyman, after years of suffering from that insidious disease, Cataract, and vainly trying every known remedy, at last found a prescription which completely cured and saved him from death. Any sufferer from this dreadful disease sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Prof. J. A. Lawrence, 212 East 9th St., New York, will receive the recipe free of charge.

FREE LABOR TO REPLACE SLAVES.

What the Exodus Agents Are Doing to Keep Them at Home—Some Baby Slaves, and a Word About Emancipation.

A gigantic scheme, said to be under full headway in certain sections of this country, is now claiming considerable attention of the press. The importance of the movement as it may relate to society, the immensity of the enterprise and the probable sum of money involved, together with more or less mystery concerning the real object, all combine to promote interest in the subject. The scheme, as far as it has been explained, contemplates the exportation of thousands of negroes from this country to Brazil. Emigration agents are said to be working certain sections and inducing colored people to join in a grand exodus to that country, which, undoubtedly, is described to them as literally flowing with milk and honey.

That the proposed exodus is taking a tangible shape, and there is a likelihood of the emigration agents' scheme succeeding, appears from the apprehensions felt and shown by the papers of the Southern states. The white people of the South always look with fear and trembling upon any threatened move to deprive them of the working negroes, and they have not yet recovered from the shock they experienced a few years ago, when an extensive exodus transferred so large a proportion of their black citizens to Kansas and other Western states. Though the Southerners often declare a wish that they had no "niggers," they cannot reconcile themselves to a parting with them.

Judging by the efforts of a South Carolina paper, efforts are being made to thwart the plans of the exodus agents by the old tactics of frightening the native blacks into fits. The paper, as quoted yesterday, declares that the blacks who join this exodus will be sold into slavery at \$800 a head, and then proceeds to figure on the probable profit of the transaction to the agents. It is easy to understand the motives of such a statement, and the effect it would have on the colored people can readily be imagined, but that it is unreasonably all-wise is shown by the fact that it is an accepted fact that no slaves have been imported into the empire in the last thirty years, and none, except by stealth, for still a longer period. This is not because of any qualms of conscience on the part of the South American empire, but is owing largely to the treaty with England and the earnest entreaty of Britannia backed by her heavy cannons. In short, many years ago Brazil promised to abolish the slave carrying trade, and other countries have been helped to see that the promise was not broken.

Laying aside all reference to history, treaties and statistics, the assertion that negroes from the United States can be shipped to the capital of Brazil and sold in open market at \$300 a head, or any other price, is simply preposterous. The further statement that the agents will make large profits by the shipment, cannot so easily be refuted.

Brazil, for several years, has been making efforts to attract her shores a portion of the great tide of emigration from the old to the new world, with indifferent success. Colonies from nearly every European country have settled in Brazil, but in many cases have gone back again as soon as they were able. The government, through its bureau of colonization and immigration, has used all kinds of means to attract emigrants, but has shown little disposition to treat the foreigner as a citizen. The government does not consider ownership of land as any inducement, the general idea being that imported free labor can be obtained by contract or by lease co-operative plan, the intricacies of which are not readily explained. The government is ready, at all times, to pay the passage money of all emigrants to that country, but the agents who can induce a large party to emigrate from any country to Brazil will receive a commission, so much per capita—sufficient to pay them for their trouble. This is where the emigration agent makes his profit, which in large consignments, would be considerable.

It is quite probable that if the exodus ever takes place the blacks will be hired at Rio de Janeiro by contract and put to work on plantations. If they should prove that they can be as good as the white men, they will be able to make money, and the other negroes who have settled in Brazil, they may start a colony. The experience of the exodus to Liberia, however, tends to show that North American negroes are not successful at all in that country. At any rate, they will stand the same chance as the people of whiter skins whom they will find on all sides, and in all the vocations. Furthermore, in Brazil there is no color line. The African, if he possesses any of the useful qualifications, is eligible to any position to which a white man may attain. African blood may be found in without any disadvantage, in some of the highest offices of the empire, in positions of trust and in the professions. The editor of a leading daily paper in Rio de Janeiro is a slave, and usually, his paper is a flat-footed abolitionist. This brings me around to the subject of slavery—that bugaboo that is held up by the South Carolina papers as the only cause of indignation to scare the blacks into staying at home. Slavery in Brazil is yet a blot of the scutcheon of America, and it exists in a form almost as atrocious as when thought, by the working of the emancipation law passed September 28, 1871, and a subsequent law, emancipation is in sight. I have been in the slave market in Rio, I have seen ample proofs of the cruel practices of some of our countrymen, for a brief period an employer of slaves hired from masters, and during my sojourn in Dom Pedro's empire I learned enough of the horrible system of property in man to make my blood boil with indignation at the recollection. Basing the statement at what came under my own observation, I declare that every inch of property in man, whether it be in the western hemisphere, or in the most depraved grade of morals, the lowest order of intelligence and the most utterly hopeless existence of the creatures held in bondage.

The emancipation law, passed in 1871, provided that all children born of slave mothers, from September 28 of that year, should remain the property of their masters until they were the age of 21 years, when they should have their freedom. By this law a slave baby born on the day before that act went into effect could remain a slave all his life, whether it be 50, 70 or 90 years, unless some other means shortened his bondage. Since my visit to the country I learn that a new law has been enacted providing, in addition to the government fund to be used in buying the freedom of slaves, and establishing the price to be paid the owners, ranging from \$100 for slaves over 60 years of age to \$500 for those under 30 years. Each of the provinces of the empire does some emancipation on its own part, in addition to that of the general government, and societies organized for the purpose do their share. Still, at the present rate of emancipation, slavery cannot be entirely eradicated for a number of years to come, for there are yet over one million in the empire, and death is relieving more blacks from bonds than are liberated by all the other means employed.

When I was in Brazil a sale of slaves took place at Valenga under official patronage. These were ingenious or childrenborn in bondage, and the following is a list of their names, ages and valuations, reduced to our money. Nathalia, aged eight years, valued at \$30; Onofre, seven years, \$30; Paulino, four years, \$15; Jose, two years, \$7.50; Olimpia, eight months, \$1.25; Luiz, four years, \$1.75; Avelino, two months, \$7.50; Ignacia, seven years, \$30; Antonio, three years, \$15; Mariano, one year, \$7.50; Adolina, four years, \$45. Remember it was only the services of these children that were sold, and the boys had them until the slaves became 21 years of age, and this under the law of free birth!

There is no room in the limited space of this article to describe any details of Brazilian slavery, to describe any of the cruel practices of

masters (and, alas! of mistress, too), instances of which abound in the pages of the native papers, or to quote statistics by which the process of gradual emancipation may be figured out. What I started out to say was that even if the exodus agents—whoever they may be—do succeed in carrying a large number of North American blacks to Brazil, the negroes will have no more a lot in that country than they have in Alabama or South Carolina.

They will not be sold into slavery, and if they behave themselves and abstain from drinking too much whiskey, the native run, the move may not prove disastrous to them. By such an emigration they will only follow the example set by many of their white countrymen. It will be remembered by some that after the civil war in this country several hundred highly Southerners felt they could not live in this country under the stars and stripes and with their families and belongings fled to Brazil. Though the vestiges of their colonies may yet be found in that country the larger portions of the voluntary exiles finally came to the United States, and as they disliked the stars and stripes they disliked Brazil more.

—H. Reynolds' Room, Toledo Blade.

EARLY DAYS IN WICHITA.

"The Eagle" Flew High, But the Railroad Knocked It Out.

"When I projected the first number of my journal in Wichita," said Tom Birkins, founder of the Wichita War Eagle, at the Occidental, "the town consisted of two houses, the United States land office and the institution in which I jerked the Archimedian lever, while the office-boy inked the forms with a hand-roller. I had arrived on the scene two weeks before Chicago with a bagful of type and a little old secondhand press. Our constituency consisted principally of prairie dogs, though you could look from the open door of our bounteous saloon, the native run, antelope scampering east. At night we heard the wailing cry of the coyotes. The boy slept on the rough plank table which we called an imposing stove, while I slept on the floor under it. Our coats and trousers served us for pillows, while our exchanges, which had begun coming in in advance were used for covering.

Bob Tompkins, the register of the land office, and I were intimate friends. He had given me a pointer as to the desired importance of Wichita, and I had got in the nick of time in order to get the land notices to publish in the Monongahela valley. The boys had arrived, and in a little while the entire prairie was crisscrossed with white stakes representing the Grand boulevard, Hemming way, and the state highway from Emporia, a half-dozen places on the principal streets were set aside for public fountains, and the other boys were busy with the water cylinder. I had arranged to get a steam boiler, and the place for all the boys was settled. Prairie schooners and fast-flying vagabonds covered the plains. The land office was a building of logs, and I had arranged to get to be that the office printer, who I had managed by relays of men, I got in on land deals. The War Eagle soared aloft. My circle of subscribers was not so large as I had hoped, but I could no longer print it on my hand-roller. I got a steeper cylinder and took a suite of elegant rooms at the Western hotel. I began the erection of a four-story office, and again increased my force until I had twenty men in my employ. I had managed by relays of men, I got in on land deals. The War Eagle soared aloft. My circle of subscribers was not so large as I had hoped, but I could no longer print it on my hand-roller. I got a steeper cylinder and took a suite of elegant rooms at the Western hotel. I began the erection of a four-story office, and again increased my force until I had twenty men in my employ. I had managed by relays of men, I got in on land deals. The War Eagle soared aloft. My circle of subscribers was not so large as I had hoped, but I could no longer print it on my hand-roller. I got a steeper cylinder and took a suite of elegant rooms at the Western hotel. 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