

"HEW TO THE LINE, LET THE CHIPS FALL WHERE THEY MAY."

VOL. III

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The Struggle for Existence.

The doctrine of "The struggle for existence," borrowed from the brute kingdom, where life is sustained by the warring upon and devouring of each other, is sought to be applied to the social life of man.

This doctrine assumes that there is not room enough in the world for all; that some must perish in order that others may survive; and that it is therefore right for each to obey his natural instinct, and preserve his own life at whatever cost to his fellows.

Whether justified by this doctrine or not, certain it is that the condition of the masses of society is that of a struggle for existence.

Whether we take the wage-worker, the farmer, the mechanic, or business man, the position of each, and his existence even, is secured only by a fierce competitive struggle.

The wage-worker, born into the world portionless and with nothing but his strong arm for his support, enters this struggle. The son of the poor, he has from earliest childhood seen what that struggle meant.

he must have the use of these, and of machinery and tools, and must enter the employ of these owners, who are thus his masters.

But to find such masters is becoming increasingly difficult; there are so many others like himself engaged in seeking employment, that masters are hard to find upon any terms.

The consequent crowded and drugged condition of the labor market compels the laborer to accept the terms of capital, and take starvation, if he cannot get living wages.

The necessities condition of labor and the crowded condition of the labor market, gives the laborer no power of contract. He hears of a law of wages which tells him that he will not consent to take less than sufficient to support life; but any time when such law obtained, and when he could obtain employment under that independent attitude, must seem to him a Utopian condition indeed.

By the laborer may fail to find employment even on these terms; or, having found it, may and does lose it upon each recurring crisis.

and even a crime, compelled to live upon charity or sink into a pauper's grave.

The farmer, like the day-laborer, is generally landless and portionless when he enters this struggle for existence.

But the farmer must have land, stock, implements, seed for his crops, and subsistence during the growing season. He may by long service as a wage-earner have saved a little money, or he may perhaps have received a small patrimony.

Mrs. Martha Place was executed at New York Monday. The first shock lasted four seconds.

Mrs. Martha Place killed her step-daughter, Ada Place, 22 years old at their home in Brooklyn, February 6, 1898.

Mrs. Place's story of the crime was that she had thrown carbolic acid in her step-daughter's face during a quarrel and then got the ax to defend herself from attack.

Road Supervisor Eyley came in Thursday and bought a nickel's worth of the Axe.

Fighting Under Difficulties.

A correspondent of the Associated Press at Manila says: "An army has seldom operated under harder conditions than those encountered by the Americans."

Taxes on Farm Lands.

Owners of farm lands in Snohomish county are seriously embarrassed by the shape which the question of taxes are assuming.

The above from a Washington paper is applicable to Lane county in a great measure. For instance the taxes on property in Eugene is 3 1/2 per cent, or \$3.50 on the hundred dollars of assessed value of the property.

The Closing Scene.

With a view that our readers shall see how speaker Reed snubbed General Wheeler we print the following, as reported by the associated press dispatches of March 4.

REED SNUBS WHEELER.

"At 11:45 the assistant door-keeper with a long pole set back the clock hands ten minutes. Immediately afterward there was a most dramatic episode.

The speaker looked straight ahead as if he did not hear. "I ask unanimous consent to speak five minutes," shouted the general, but the speaker disregarded him.

Commenting on the above the Yaquina Tug says: "Tom Reed's long and honorable career in congress does not give him the moral right to use his power as speaker of the house and deal out in justice to the members who dare to openly express an opinion

not in harmony with his own.

His treatment of the grizzled old confederate vetran and Santiago hero, General Joseph Wheeler, during the closing minutes of the session might have been based upon parliamentary law, but it was just the time when a warm-hearted and generous presiding officer would have stretched the law a few points, especially to favor a political opponent.

Oberman Will Hang.

In the circuit court today J. M. Oberman, convicted of the murder of J. N. Casteel on Myrtle Creek, had the death sentence passed upon him for the second time.

The Coolness of the Prisoner.

The coolness of the prisoner during the trying scene was remarked upon by many who witnessed it.

Sunday's Oregonian.

The refinement of cruelty as distilled by the slow process of the law in meeting out justice to criminals is seen in the case of Claude Branton, the Lane county murderer.

Z T Keyes of Grants Pass.

Z T Keyes of Grants Pass gave this office a pleasant call Wednesday of last week. Mr Keyes informs us that he is here with his wife who is under treatment of the doctors for sickness, who we are pleased to state is "in a fair way to recover."

We Must Pay in Blood And Treasure For Our Dances.

Brann's Iconoclast: We bought the Philippine insurrection from Spain. It behooves us now to quell it. It has cost us some life and treasure. It will cost us more.

The Treaty of Paris.

The treaty of Paris, by fair or foul means, has been ratified. The duty of the legislative branch of the government is clear. It must furnish the executive with means to compel order in the archipelago.

Until Congress Shall Establish.

Until Congress shall establish a form of stable government for the Philippine Islands William McKinley, and the president who comes after him, will be the dictators of the subjects whom we bought.

They are young hearts and gallant.

They are young hearts and gallant, but they shall break under the long strain. They are haughty crests that shall be lowered by the spear of mortal sickness.

How the Wealth-Creator Fares Under Present Conditions.

We take the following from the Arena of Nov 1895, which is as applicable today as it was the day it was written, and is perhaps just the case with many of our readers who bring to the markets of Eugene the products of their farms for sale. Read:

"There is a great deal of cant at the present time about the easy condition of those who own their land, and we hear much about the improvidence of working men as the chief cause of their suffering.

"I will give you the history of the enclosed three dollars. Mrs. R employed a neighbor and his wife and team to gather fourteen bushels of peaches; the two women and man were six hours getting them into his wagon; he drove them to a distant town next day and returned the following day.

"Mrs. R saw a man deliver a full two-horse wagon load of melons in town for two cents each; the smallest of them weighed thirty-five pounds and the largest fifty cents; the load brought fifty cents. He had hauled them several miles, hence the whole day was consumed besides the labor of raising them, and he loaded them the night before so as to get an early start.

"Now do you wonder that the people do not support liberal and progressive publications? we think they should? In the first place, they cannot get the money; and in the second place, they are in such the mental and physical condition that the blacks were in years past. Their gas is fixed on the ground; their faces are turned downward; when they cease to toil the brain is passive or dormant; the body is exhausted as well as the brain. Thirdly, they were never trained from birth to 1895 to think for the sake of mental improvement."

"This same gentleman, later in the letter, in speaking of what might be done if the unfortunates were treated kindly, encouraged, uplifted, and educated, says: 'To show what can be done I shall state what has been done here in this connection: We took in a poor girl last winter without clothes or shelter; within six months from the time we took her, having been clothed, fed and trained in the ways of labor and living in general, we put her to a good weekly at two dollars per week. A hundred more, men and women, with proper organization and effort could have been placed without that usual of blue is crossing the ocean. present god—money.'"