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FROM

POORHOUSE TO PALACE

BY MARY J. HOLMES

CHAPTER I.

"What makes you keep that big blue sunbonnet drawn so closely over your face? Are you afraid of having it seen?"

The person addressed was a pale, sickly looking child about nine years of age, who on the deck of the vessel Windermere, was gazing intently toward the distant shore of old England, fast receding from view. Near her a fine-looking boy of fourteen was standing, trying in vain to gain a look at the features shaded by the gingham bonnet.

At the sound of his voice the little girl started, and without turning her head, replied, "Nobody wants to see me, I am so ugly and disagreeable."

"Ugly, are you?" repeated the boy, lifting her up and looking her fully in the face. "Well, you are not very handsome, that's a fact, but I wouldn't be sullen about it. Ugly people are always smart, and perhaps you are. Anyway, I like little girls, so just let me sit here and get acquainted."

Mary Howard was certainly not very handsome. Her features, though tolerably regular, were small and thin, her complexion sallow, and her eyes, though bright and expressive, seemed too large for her face. She had frequently been told that she was homely, and often when alone had wept, and wondered why she, too, was not handsome like her sister Ella, on whose cheek the softest rose was blooming, while her rich brown hair fell in wavy masses about her white neck and shoulders. But if Ella was more beautiful than Mary, there was far less in her character to admire. She knew that she was pretty, and this made her proud and selfish, expecting attention from all, and growing sullen if it was withheld.

Mrs. Howard, the mother of these children, had incurred the displeasure of her father, a wealthy Englishman, by marrying her music teacher. Humbly at her father's feet she had knelt and sued for pardon, but the old man was inexorable and turned her from his house. Late in life he had married a youthful widow, who, after the lapse of a few years died, leaving three little girls, Sarah, Ella and Jane, two of them his own, and one a stepdaughter and a child of his wife's first marriage. As a last request Mrs. Temple had asked that her baby Jane should be given to the care of her sister, Mrs. Morris, who was on the eve of embarking for America. Sarah, too, was adopted by her father's brother, and thus Mr. Temple was left alone with his eldest daughter, Ella. Occasionally he heard from Jane, but time and distance gradually weakened the tie of parental affection, which wound itself more closely around Ella; and now, when she, too, left him, and worse than all, married a poor music teacher, the old man's wrath knew no bounds.

"But we'll see," said he—"we'll see how they get on. I'll use all my influence against the dog, and when Miss Ella's right cold and hungry she'll be glad to come back and leave him."

But he was mistaken, for though right cold and hungry Ella oftentimes was, she only clung the closer to her husband, happy to share his fortune, whatever it might be. Two years after her marriage, hearing that her father was dangerously ill, she went to him, but the forgiveness she so ardently desired was never gained, for the old man's reason was gone. Faithfully she watched until the end, and then when she heard read his will and knew that his property was all bequeathed to her sister in America, she brushed the tears from her long eyelashes and went back to her humble home prepared to meet the worst.

In course of time three children, Frank, Mary and Ella, were added to their number, and though their presence brought sunshine and gladness, it brought also an increase of toil and care. Year after year Mr. Howard struggled on, while each day rumors reached him of the plenty to be had in the land beyond the sea; and at last, when hope seemed dying out, he resolved to try his fortune in the far-famed home of the weary emigrant. The necessary preparations for their voyage were made as soon as possible, and when the Windermere left the harbor of Liverpool they stood upon her deck, waving a last adieu to the few kind friends who on shore were bidding them godspeed.

Among the passengers was George Moreland, whose parents had died some months before, leaving him and a large fortune to the guardianship of his uncle, a wealthy merchant residing in Boston. This uncle, Mr. Selden, had written for his nephew to join him in America, and it was for this purpose that George had taken passage in the Windermere. He was a frank, generous-hearted boy, and a favorite with all who knew him. He was a passionate admirer of beauty, and the moment the Howards came on board and he caught sight of Ella, he felt irresistibly attracted toward her. Mary, whose sensitive nature shrank from the observation of strangers, eluded all his efforts to look under her bonnet. This aroused his curiosity, and when he followed her addressed to her the remark with which we commenced this chapter. At last, gently smoothing back her hair, which was really bright and glossy, he said, "Who told you that you were so ugly looking?" The tears started to Mary's eyes, and her chin quivered, as she replied, "Father says so, Ella says so, and everybody says so but mother and Franky."

"Everybody doesn't always tell the truth," said George, wishing to administer as much comfort as possible. "You've got pretty blue eyes, nice brown hair, and your forehead, too, is broad and high; now if you hadn't such a muddy complexion, bony cheeks, little nose, big ears and awful teeth, you wouldn't be such a fright!"

George propensity to tease had come upon him, and in enumerating the defects in Mary's face he purposely magnified them; but he regretted it, when he saw the effect his words produced. Hiding her face in her hands, Mary burst into a passionate fit of weeping, then snatching the bonnet from George's lap, she threw it on her head and was hurrying away when George caught her and pulling her back, said, "Forgive me, Mary. I could not help plaguing you a little, but I'll try and not do it again."

For a time George kept this resolution, but he could not conceal the preference which he felt for Ella, whose doll-like face and childish ways were far more in keeping with his taste than Mary's old look. Whenever he noticed her at all, he spoke kindly to her; but she knew there was a great difference between his treatment of her and Ella, and ofttimes, when saying her evening prayer, she prayed that George Moreland might love her a little, just a little.

Two weeks had passed since the last vestige of land had disappeared from view, and then George was taken dangerously ill with fever. Mrs. Howard herself visited him frequently, but she commanded her children to keep away, lest they, too, should take the disease. For a day or two Mary obeyed her mother, and then curiosity led her near George's berth. For several minutes she lingered, and was about turning away when a low moan fell on her ear and arrested her footsteps. Her mother's commands were forgotten, and in a moment she stood by George's bedside. Tenderly she smoothed his tumbled pillow, moistened his parched lips and bathed his feverish brow, and when an hour afterward, the physician entered, he found his patient calmly sleeping, with one hand clasped in that of Mary.

"Mary! Mary Howard!" said the physician, "this is no place for you," and he endeavored to lead her away.

This aroused George, who begged so hard for her to remain that the physician went in quest of Mrs. Howard, who rather unwillingly consented, and Mary was duly installed as nurse. Perfectly delighted with her new vocation, she would sit for hours by her charge. She possessed a very sweet, clear voice; and frequently, when all other means had failed to quiet him, she would bend her face near his, and taking his hands in hers, would sing to him some simple song of home, until lulled by the soft music he would fall away to sleep. Such unwearied kindness was not without its effect upon George, and one day when Mary as usual was sitting near him, he called her to his side, and taking her face between his hands, kissed her forehead and lips, saying, "What can I ever do to pay my little nurse for her kindness?"

Mary hesitated a moment, and then replied, "Love me as well as you do Ella!"

"As well as I do Ella!" he repeated; "I love you a great deal better. She has not been to see me once. What is the reason?"

Frank, who a moment before had stolen to Mary's side, answered, saying, "Someone told Ella that if she should have the fever, her curls would all drop off; and so she won't come near you!"

Just then Mrs. Howard appeared, and this time she was accompanied by Ella, who clung closely to her mother's skirts. George did not as usual caress her, but he asked her mockingly, "if her hair had commenced coming out!" while Ella only answered by grasping at her long curls, as if to reassure herself of their safety.

In a few days George was able to go on deck, and though he still petted and played with Ella, he never again slighted Mary. At last, after many weary days, there came the joyful news that land was in sight; and next morning Boston, with its numerous domes and spires, was before them. Toward noon a pleasant looking, middle-aged man came on board, inquiring for George Moreland, and announcing himself as Mr. Selden. George immediately stepped forward, and after greeting his uncle, introduced Mr. and Mrs. Howard, speaking at the same time of their kindness to him during his illness. All was now confusion, but in the hurry and bustle of going ashore George did not forget Mary. Taking her aside he threw round her neck a small golden chain, to which was attached a locket containing a miniature likeness of himself painted a year before.

"Keep it," said he, "to remember me by, or if you get tired of it, give it to Ella for a plaything."

"I wish I had one for you," said Mary, and George replied, "Never mind, I can remember your looks without a likeness." Then bidding adieu to Mr. and Mrs. Howard, Frank and Ella, he sprang into his uncle's carriage and was rapidly driven away. Mary looked after him as long as the heads of the white horses were in sight, and then taking Frank's hand, followed her parents to the hotel, where for a few days they had determined to stop while Mrs. Howard made inquiries for her sister.

Meantime from the windows of a large, handsome building a little girl looked out, impatiently waiting her father's return, wondering why he was gone so long and if she should like her cousin George.

In the center of the room the dinner table was standing, and Ida Selden had twice changed the location of her cousin's plate, once placing it at her side, and lastly putting it directly in front, so she could have a fair view of his face.

"Why don't they come?" she had said for the twentieth time, when the sound of carriage wheels in the yard below made her start up, and, running downstairs, she was soon shaking the hands of her cousin, whom she decided to be handsome. Placing her arm affectionately around him, she led him into the parlor, saying: "I am so glad that you have come to live with me and be my brother. We'll have real nice times, but perhaps you dislike little girls. Did you ever see one that you loved?"

"Yes, two," was the answer. "My cousin Ida and one other."

"Oh, who is she?" asked Ida. "Tell me about her. How does she look? Is she pretty?"

George told her of Mary, who had watched so kindly over him during the weary days of his illness.

"I know I should like her," Ida said. "They are poor, you say, and Mr. Howard is a music teacher. Monsieur Dupres has just left me, and who knows but papa can get Mr. Howard to fill his place."

When the subject was referred to her father he said that he had liked the appearance of Mr. Howard, and would, if possible, find him on the morrow and engage his services. The next morning the sky was dark with angry clouds, from which the rain was steadily falling. All thoughts of Mr. Howard were given up for that day, and as every moment of Mr. Selden's time was employed for several successive ones, it was nearly a week after George's arrival before any inquiries were made for the family. The hotel at which they had stopped was then found, but Mr. Selden was told that the persons whom he was seeking had left the day before for one of the inland towns, though which one he could not ascertain.

CHAPTER II.

It was the afternoon for the regular meeting of the Ladies' Sewing Society in the little village of Chicopee, and at the usual hour groups of ladies were seen wending their way toward the stately mansion of Mrs. Campbell, the wealthiest and proudest lady in town. The spacious sitting room, the music room adjoining, and the wide, cool hall beyond were thrown open to all, and by three o'clock they were nearly filled.

At first there was almost perfect silence, broken only by a whisper or undertone, but gradually the hum of voices increased, until at last there was a great deal more talking than working. Then for a time there was again silence while Mrs. Johnson, president of the society, told of the extreme destitution in which she had that morning found a poor English family who had moved into the village two or three years before. They had managed to earn a comfortable living until the husband and father suddenly died, since which time the wife's health had been very rapidly failing, and she was no longer able to work, but was wholly dependent for subsistence upon the exertions of her oldest child, Frank, and the charity of the villagers. The day before the sewing society Frank had been taken seriously ill with what threatened to be scarlet fever.

The sick woman in whom Mrs. Johnson was so much interested was Mrs. Howard. All inquiries for her sisters had been fruitless. Since we last saw them a sickly baby had been added to their number. With motherly care little Mary each day washed and dressed it, and then hour after hour carried it in her arms, trying to still its feeble moans, which fell so sadly on the ear of her invalid mother.

It was a small, low building which they inhabited, containing but one room and a bedroom, which they had ceased to occupy, for one by one each article of furniture had been sold, until at last Mrs. Howard lay upon a rude lounge, which Frank had made from some rough boards. Until midnight the little fellow toiled, and then when his work was done crept softly to the cupboard, where lay one slice of bread, the only article of food which the house contained. Long and wistfully he looked at it, thinking how good it would taste; but one glance at the pale faces near decided him. "They need it more than I," said he, and turning resolutely away, he prayed that he "might sleep pretty soon and forget how hungry he was."

One morning when he attempted to rise he felt oppressed with a languor he had never experienced, and turning on his trundle-bed and adjusting his blue cotton jacket, his only pillow, he again slept so soundly that Mary was obliged to call him twice ere she aroused him.

That night he came home wild with delight—"he had earned a whole dollar, and he knew how he could earn another half-dollar to-morrow. Oh, I wish it would come quick," said he, as he related his success to his mother.

But, alas! the morrow found him burning with fever, and when he attempted to stand he found it impossible to do so. A case of scarlet fever had appeared in the village, and it soon became evident that the disease had fastened upon Frank. The morning following the sewing society Ella Campbell and several other children showed symptoms of the same disease, and in the season of general sickness which followed few were left to care for the poor widow. Daily little Frank grew worse. The dollar he had earned was gone, the basket of provisions Mrs. Johnson had sent was gone, and when for milk baby Alice cried, there was none to give her.

(To be continued.)

Down a Mountain Slope.

The descent from the easiest pass across the Blue Ridge mountains thereabouts, known as Snicker's gap, to the Shenandoah river, is long and steady. At regular intervals a little elevation of solid earth, also known as a brake, has been banked up across the road to keep it from being washed away by the heavy rains. A ferry, propelled by the river current, carries the stage coach across the Shenandoah, which flows at the foot of the mountain.

One day the coach, well loaded with passengers and their baggage, had attained a fair speed when an accident to the harness occurred. The driver could not turn the vehicle up against the high banks on either side without upsetting it and perhaps maiming its occupants. There was nothing to do but to "keep the horses on their feet and guide them."

Every time he reached one of the mounds across the road he had to exercise the greatest skill in steering over it squarely, but by coolness and presence of mind he brought his load safely, although at a tremendous speed, down the mountain. From long experience he knew where it was possible to drive into the river without getting beyond his depth, and, as he boldly plunged his team into the stream an effective brake upon its speed began to operate. It soon came to a standstill and the terror-stricken passengers drew a long breath once more. Rowboats came out after them, the harness and brakes were repaired and the journey resumed.

The poet Campbell found that "Coming events cast their shadows before" and "'Tis distance lends enchantment to the view."

EVENTS OF THE DAY

FROM THE FOUR QUARTERS OF THE WORLD.

A Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week Presented in a Condensed Form Which Is Most Likely to Prove of Interest to Our Many Readers.

Famine forced court to leave Sinan Fu.

Bubonic plague has broken out in Honolulu.

France has restored loot taken from the Chinese.

German soldiers fired on a British tug at Tien Tsin.

Seven people were burned to death in a Chicago fire.

Ex-State Superintendent McElroy, of Oregon, is dead.

The Shamrock II had her first trial spin at Southampton.

About a dozen people were injured in a train wreck in Ohio.

A commission has been appointed to improve the Pei Ho river.

Another battle has occurred between the Boers and British.

Revolution in Colombia has degenerated into guerrilla warfare.

Fire in Nashville, Tenn., did damage to the amount of $100,000.

Wholesale arrests resulted from revolutionary movement in Russia.

China suggested to powers the opening of Manchuria to all countries.

Another oil gusher has been struck at Beaumont, Tex,. near the other one.

Mrs. McKinley has been given the honor of launching the battle ship Ohio at San Francisco.

The homeless of Jacksonville, Fla., as a result of the recent fire, will be quartered at St. Augustine army barracks.

The force of soldiers in the Philippines will be reduced to 40,000, and if improvement continues, still further reduction will be made.

President McKinley, while at El Paso, Tex., exchanged felicitations with President Diaz, of Mexico, and received delegations from that country.

Vanderbilt and Gould are buying heavily of Union Pacific stock.

The merchants of New Orleans gave a banquet to the president.

King Alfonso will assume the throne of Spain in one more year.

Six thousand soldiers are needed in and around Tien Tsin to keep order.

The man who robbed the American express office in Paris has been arrested.

Two masked men entered a residence at Springfield, Mich., and stole $8,000 in gold.

The report that 200 men had frozen to death in an Alaska stampede has been confirmed.

In a wreck on the Great Northern in Montana, one man was killed and several injured.

The French are making preparations for a withdrawal of a portion of their troops in China.

"Apache Kid," a leader of a band of Yaqui Indians has been executed by Mexican officials.

Mrs. Carrie Nation, true to her word, has again returned to her cell in the Wichita, Kan., jail.

A congressional committee has been appointed to inspect harbor improvements on the Pacific coast.

The course of Minister Loomis has been sustained by the United States and Venezuela will be so notified.

The indemnity committee, composed of representatives of the powers, has decided that China must pay $273,000,000.

An agreement has been reached whereby all the principal trans-Atlantic steamship companies will form an immense trust.

The gates of the Pan-American exposition at Buffalo have been thrown open to the public. Notwithstanding the fact that the big fair is far from complete large crowds are constantly in attendance.

Chinese officials have apologised to an insulted French consul.

Much land in the Palouse, Washington country is being bonded for oil and gas.

Two more prominent Filipino generals and several officers have surrendered with their forces.

The transport fleet is on its way from Manila to transport Chaffee's army to the Philippines.

A reuglar semi-monthly steamer service between San Francisco and Manila is to be established at once, two first-class steamers to be placed upon the route.

During 1889 the total value of mules exported to all foreign countries was $516,000, while during 1900 the figures reached $3,919,000. Memphis used to be the great distributing point for mules, but Louisville has recently taken precedence.

CLAIM AGAINST CHINA.

Amount of Indemnity Has Been Fixed at $273,000,000.

Paris, May 3.—The foreign office has received a dispatch from Pekin announcing that M. Pichon, French minister, presented today the report of the committee on indemnity. The amount China has to pay has been fixed at 1,365,000 francs ($273,000,000). How it is proposed that the indemnity be distributed among the powers is not set forth.

There was much disappointment over the fact that the United States is supporting England against an increase in the customs. This is attributed to the influence of the American community in China. It is believed that England, if alone, would yield, but fears are entertained that England's scheme is to prolong negotiations until her hands are free in South Africa, when she would show a stronger policy in Chinese affairs.

Official advises received here from Pekin say the ministers are divided into two parties in the discussion to decide how China is to raise the indemnity. France, Germany, Russia and Japan agree in favor of raising the customs duties, which can be relied upon to produce a great part of the requisite sum, and the imposition of a duty on junks, which will constitute a tax on internal navigation and taking over of some of the likin (provincial transit duties). On the other hand the United States and Great Britain decline to agree to an increase of the customs duties, but they do not appear to have presented a counter proposition. The fact that the United States and Great Britain have joined hands on this issue has caused surprised here. It was hoped that the United States would stand with France and Russia. The result will be to greatly protract the negotiations.

TWO ROBBERS CAUGHT.

Arrest of Men Who Broke Into the American Express Office at Paris.

Paris, May 3.—The principal author of the robbery of the American Express Co.'s office in Paris the night of April 26, when three masked burglars escaped with 30,000 francs, has been arrested. His name is George Miler. For some time he has lived in Paris under the name of James Samuel, being employed in a barber shop. Some days before the burglary the detectives noticed three men of English appearance whose behavior was very mysterious. These persons entered banks without doing any business, and inspected buildings. The detectives maintained a careful watch at the railway stations for persons who might possibly have been connected with the robbery, and their patience was awarded when they apprehended Miler. Miler was the bearer of a large number of stolen checks to the amount of 6,000 francs in a box in a leather handbag. He had also in this bag dynamite cartridges, jimmies, a metal saw and drills of the finest steel.

Another one of the thieves has been arrested at Amiens, his baggage being seized at the railway station. Other arrests are imminent.

Memento for the President.

Seattle, May 3.—The Snoqualmie Fall Power Co., is preparing a beautiful souvenir to be presented to President McKinley on the occasion of his visit to Seattle. It will be a solid tablet of silver some eight inches by six inches in size, with an outline of Snoqualmie Falls, and the surrounding rocks and trees embossed in purest gold. In the lower corner will be an attached leaf, bearing on its upper surface a suitable inscription and showing underneath a plan of the company's work room cut into solid rock of Snoqualmie.

Rate War to Alaska Towns.

Seattle, May 3.—Heavy slashing is the order in the Alaska steamship rate war. Fares first and second class to Lynn canal are cut to half of the old rates. First class tickets are selling for $10, and second class for $5. A week ago they were worth $25 and $16. Corresponding reductions in freight rates are also reported.

Great Fire at San Juan.

San Juan, Porto Rico, May 3.—The new $150,000 pier caught fire this afternoon and was destroyed in half an hour. A large stock of sugar and rum was lost in the fire. The fire continues to rage and the flames threaten to spread to the stores of the custom house.

Vetoed Insurance Tax Bill.

Denver, May 3.—This was the last day for the consideration by Governor Orman of bills passed by the recent legislature. He vetoed the bill increasing the tax on insurance companies from 2 to 3 per cent of their gross receipts, but permitted the bill restoring capital punishment to become a law without his signature.

Large Grain Crop Sure.

Eugene, Or., May 3.—Crops in this section are looking much better since the rains of a few days ago. Farmers say it is impossible to estimate the good done by the showers. Large grain crops are more than assured. Crop prospects were never brighter in Lane county.

A special agent of the United States department of agriculture reports that beyond doubt grain can be matured anywhere in Alaska.

OREGON STATE NEWS

Items of Interest From All Parts of the State.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL HAPPENINGS

A Brief Review of the Growth and Improvements of the Many Industries Throughout Our Thriving Commonwealth.

Work has started on the soldier's memorial monument at Eugene.

Last week 15,150 bushels of wheat changed hands at Weston. The price was 46 cents.

A new pump has been put in at DeMoss Springs for the benefit of farmers who haul water.

J. H. Eggert has taken a contract to get out 2,000,000 feet of logs, a mile below Vient.

About 12,000 bushels of wheat changed hands at DeMoss springs last week at 45 cents per bushel.

The Bonanza mine, in Eastern Oregon, has received a large new boiler. It weighs 21,000 pounds, and it took 20 horses 9½ days to haul it from Sumpter to the Bonanza, about 16 miles.

The farmhouse of Thomas Seavey, on the north side of the McKenzie, a short distance below the emouth of the Mohawk, was totally destroyed by fire. This was one of the land marks of that country, having been built in 1868, at a cost of about $3500.

Athena has secured a street rock crusher.

Work of building a road to Blue river, on the Calapooia side, has begun.

Plans of a telephone line from Baker to the Panhandle is under consideration.

A burglar proof safe arrived at Ashland last week for the First National Bank.

The telephone line from Grant's Pass to Williams is complete and in operation.

County roads between Baker City and John Day are said to be in very bad condition.

The Hood River Fruit Growers' Union is beginning to receive orders for strawberries.

Fred J. Runmmel was killed at the Mammoth mine, in Eastern Oregon recently by a snow slide.

Thieves broke into a saddle shop at The Dalles several days ago and made away with several pieces of harness.

W. C. Peterson agrees to put an electric light plant in Brownsville if the city will pay $45 per month for six lights.

Horse rustlers with two car loads of stolen horses are dodging the officers somewhere in the the eastern portion of Malheur county.

Governor Geer will be asked to grant a pardon to J. G. Luhrman, who was sent to the penitentiary from Baker county in June, 1900, convicted of manslaughter.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 59@60c.; valley, nominal; bluestem, 61c. per bushel.

Flour—Best grades, $2.70@3.40 per barrel; graham, $2.60.

Oats — White, $1.35 per cental; gray, $1.25@1.30 per cental.

Barley—Feed, $17@17.25; brewing, $17@17.25 per ton.

Millstuffs—Bran, $16 per ton; middlings, $21.50; shorts, $17.50; chop, $16.

Hay—Timothy, $12.50@14; clover, $7@9.50; Oregon wild hay, $6@7 per ton.

Hops—12@14c. per lb.; 1899 crop, 6@7c.

Wool — Valley, 12@13c.; Eastern Oregon, 9@12c; mohair, 20@21c. per pound.

Butter — Fancy creamery, 15@17½c.; dairy, 12½@14c.; store, 10@11c. per pound.

Eggs — Oregon ranch, 14@14½c. per dozen.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, 13@13½c.; Young America, 13½@14c. per pound.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, $3.50 hens $4@4.50; dressed, 11@12c. per pound; springs, $3@5 per dozen. ducks, $5@6; geese, $6@7; turkeys, live, 10@12c; dressed, 13@15c. per pound.

Potatoes—Old, 75c.@$1 per sack; new, 2@2¼c. per pound.

Mutton — Lambs 4¾c. per pound gross; best sheep, $8; wethers, $5; ewes, $4.50; dressed, 7c. per pound.

Hogs — Gross, heavy, $5.75@6; light, $4.75@5; dressed, 7@7½c. per pound.

Veal—Large, 6@7½c. per pound; small, 8½c. per pound.

Beef—Gross, top steers, $5@5.25; cows and heifers, $4.50@4.75; dressed beef, 8¼c. per pound

Forty-eight thousand Turks have been exiled during the last 11 years.

Wolves are increasing rapidly in many of the forest lands of northern Canada.

A German savant points out that rural postmen were in existence in Egypt 4,000 years ago.

A company with a capital of $1,000,000 has been organized in Vineland, N. J., for the making of flour from sweet potatoes.

PITIFUL FATE OF A CHILD.

Lost on the Desert, a Little Girl Dies of Hunger and Exposure.

North Yakima, Wash., May 6.—A 5-year-old girl has been found on the lonely desert of the Horse Heaven country, 18 miles from her home, standing in a badger hole, where she died from starvation. The child was the daughter of Hon. W. B. Matthews, ex-county commissioner of Yakima county. Searching parties had been scouring the country for five days and nights in an effort to locate the child alive. It was thought that she had been carried away by Indians and would be found on the reservation. She had been tracked 12 miles from her home when all traces of her were obliterated by the winds blowing the tracks from the sand.

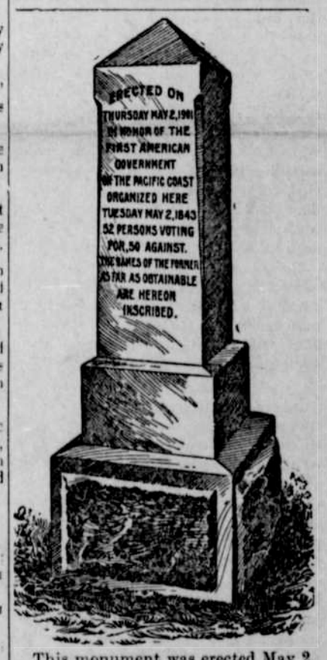
Two children, a boy aged eight years, and the girl, five, were sent out from home five days ago to look after some lost cattle. They walked away until 10 miles from home, when growing tired they fell asleep. A passing cowboy noticed them, and after arousing the sleepers took them on his pony and carried them almost home. The children then assured him that they could get home without further assistance, and he let them go alone. The night came on and it is supposed the boy ran faster than his sister and left her behind. When he reached home he was frightened and could not tell exactly what had happened. A search was made for the girl, but she could not be found that night.

FOR A YANGTSE UPRISING.

Reports of a Secret Combination of Disaffected Elements Are Confirmed.

London, May 6.—"The reports of a secret combination of disaffected elements in the Yangtse province for the purpose of organizing general risings are receiving some confirmation," says the Shanghai correspondent of the Morning Post. "The British consul at Nankin telegraphs Mr. Brennan, the British consul at Shanghai, that the Nankin viceroy is very anxious about the Yangtse movement, and he asks Mr. Brennan to assist the Taoti to preserve order by holding troops in readiness.

"It is announced from a German source that the French have withdrawn their troops from Hwai Lu to Pao Ting Fu, thus leaving the Germans in sole possession of all the passes into Shan Si."



This monument was erected May 2, 1901, near Champoeg, Oregon, on the Willamette river, about 32 miles above Portland. It stands where 52 pioneers met on May 2, 1843, and organized the first government of Oregon.

Dr. Morrison, wiring to the Times from Pekin says:

"The indemnity committee favors a loan raised on the guarantee of all the powers. Its proposal to increase the maritime cutstoms to 5 per cent advalorem applies to import duties only and not export. All the ministers of the powers, except the British, American and Japanese, favor an immediate increase to 10 per cent. The report, which is based on somewhat imperfectly understood data, has been referred to the home governments."

Battle-Ship Iowa Launched.

Seattle, May 6.—The battle ship Iowa was launched today from the Bremerton navy yard, after undergoing repairs and a thorough overhauling. Less than four weeks were occupied in the great undertaking, although six weeks had been allowed by the navy department. Admiral Casey, whose flagship the Iowa is, was loud in his praise of the equipment and facilities of the big dry dock. The flooding of the dry dock and subsequent launching of the big vessel was witnessed by over 1,200 spectators.

Northwest Postal Orders.

Washington, May 6.—A postoffice has been established at Rock Creek, Baker county, Or., to be supplied by special service from Haines, and Edward P. Castor appointed postmaster. An office has also been established at Bluellight, Yakima county, Washington, on the route from Bickelton to Mabton. Elbert L. Gravse has been commissioned postmaster at this office.