

LAND RULINGS OF IMPORTANCE

DECISIONS BY SECRETARY OF INTERIOR

Homestead and Desert Land Cases Passed Upon—Settlers on Central Oregon Claims Find Opinions of Interest

The following digest of recent decisions made by the Secretary of the Interior in homestead and desert land cases will be of interest to settlers on government land in Central Oregon, and others contemplating filing on claims:

Homesteads.

Transfer of land by one, owning more than 160 acres, to his wife in order to qualify himself to make homestead entry is not in violation of law if it was made in good faith and not intended as a mere subterfuge for the purpose of evading the statute, but such act of itself is a suspicious transaction and actual good faith must be evidenced by such facts as to convince a reasonable mind that it was not a mere collusive device. *Affirming Auker vs. Young 37 L. D. 176.*

Residence upon a homestead is not required after the expiration of five years as a prerequisite to patent and a change of residence after that period does not forfeit a right already acquired. A charge of abandonment against a homestead entry must fall where the entryman is residing upon the land when notice of contest is served.

The heirs of a deceased homestead entryman, who during his lifetime failed to comply with the law, may complete the entry by either residing upon or cultivating the land for the full period of five years if sufficient of the entry remains for that purpose; or may commute upon a showing of residence and cultivation for fourteen months, but cannot commute upon a showing of cultivation alone.

A contestant cannot be allowed a preference right to make entry on land within a reclamation project.

Desert Lands.

The right of payment does not exist when a desert land entry, on the proof presented, is properly allowed and its subsequent cancellation is due to the discovery that through mistake, not the fault of the Government, the entry in fact covers land not reclaimed or intended to be reclaimed.

The presence of trees upon land in considerable numbers indicates that the land is nondesert in character. The commercial value of the trees has little, if any, bearing upon the question of classification.

Final Proof.

The statement in final proof to the effect that all of the irrigable land was "reclaimed and in a permanent crop" is altogether too indefinite and incomplete as to reclamation of the land by the use of water and raising crops.

The Preemption Law requires personal settlement upon and habitation of the lands and the erection of a dwelling thereon, and proof within a specified time of such settlement, inhabitation and improvements. *Citing Foltz vs. Soliday (12 L. D. 643.)*

POWER OF SILENCE.

John Randolph Used It to Confuse a Powerful Opponent.

In painting the sacrifice of Iphigenia the artist, it is said, exhausted the emotions of grief and horror in the faces of the bystanders.

"He has left nothing unsaid. How can he depict her father's sorrow?" was the anxious query of those friends who were watching the development of the picture. The artist threw a mantle over Agamemnon's face. The blank silence was more effective than any picture woe.

One of the most extraordinary effects produced by an absolute silence is recorded in the reports of a convention in which the foremost men of Virginia took part. John Randolph had a measure to carry in which he looked for the opposition of Alexander Campbell, a man then noted for his scholarship and power in debate.

Randolph had never seen the Scotch logician, but he had heard enough of him to make him and his partisans uneasy. When, therefore, the gaunt stranger first rose to speak in the convention Randolph looked at him with such an air of alarm as to attract the whole attention of the convention and as he glanced around seemed to be asking for sympathy in his coming defeat. He then composed himself to listen in rapt attention.

Campbell, aware of this byplay, hesitated and lost the thread of his argument. Randolph's face by turns as he listened expressed weariness, indifference and finally contempt. He leaned back and yawned. Campbell sat down hastily. He had lost the whole force of his speech. Not a word had been spoken, but he was defeated.—*St. Louis Republic.*

Kept Him Modest.

Lord Herschel, having delivered an address before a large audience, was afterward waited on by the local reporter, who requested a digest of the deliverance. "How is it you were not present to hear it for yourself?" inquired the noble peer. "Oh," said the reporter, "I had something more important to attend to—a big boxing match." Lord Herschel admitted that this kept him modest.—*London Opinion.*



PRESIDENT TAFT GREETING OREGON PEOPLE ON HIS LAST TRIP WEST.

ACTIVE AGAINST TRUSTS

Present Administration Has Waged Constant Warfare.

People generally have never given President Taft credit for the remarkable activity of his administration against the trusts. Unlike his predecessor in office, he did not hunt the trusts with brass bands, trumpets and flying banners. He did not advertise to the far corners of the country what he intended doing before he started in campaigning against the big combinations of capital.

But the fact is, that President Taft has done more in fighting the trusts than any other president in the history of the country. A number of the biggest monopolies have been dissolved by prosecutions at the direction of President Taft, notably the Standard Oil and Tobacco Trusts.

During the three years in office, there have been instituted under the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, thirty-seven prosecutions of illegal combinations of capital. A number of these have already been successful and the people may look for the favorable conclusion of many others. This is a record that throws in the shade the performances of any other president, although it covers but three years. President Roosevelt was quite active in fighting the trusts, yet in his seven years in office, from 1901 to 1908, he caused but forty-four suits to be brought against the trusts.

TO PROBE LIVING COST

President Taft Wants to Know Cause of High Prices.

One subject in which the average householder has a vital interest is the high cost of living. Much has been written and spoken about the ever growing expense of the American household, but the blame for the condition which seems to prevail all over the country has not yet been fixed.

President Taft proposes to do this, and one of the most timely subjects he has discussed recently is this same problem. President Taft proposes to appoint a commission, consisting of experts, to carry on an investigation as to why food prices are steadily going skyward. The middleman is being freely blamed because it seems to cost more each year to live and many believe the charges well founded. President Taft's proposed commission would ascertain this fact accurately, and the causes once learned, it is thought the problem could be solved.

President Taft himself says of the plan: "One legitimate advantage of such an official investigation and report, is the enlightened and informed public opinion, which of itself, will often induce or compel the reform of unjust conditions or the abatement of unreasonable demands."

COMES OF GOOD STOCK

President Taft's Family Just Plain People for Generations.

President Taft's family hails originally from Massachusetts, the town of Uxbridge. Tafts are said to be so thick there that even a woman cannot throw a stone without hitting one.

The Tafts held a re-union at Uxbridge in 1874 and descendants of the original Robert Taft socked there from all parts of the country. Alphon-

so Taft, the father of the President, delivered an historical address at this re-union in which he made a somewhat remarkable prophecy, all without being conscious of it. This is what he said, the account being taken from the report of the re-union published at the time:

"Our family has not embarked much upon national politics, except that they have shared in the battles of the country when National Independence was to be won and also when the Union was at stake. But brilliant political careers have not been characteristic of the Tafts of the past. It is not safe to say what may be in store for them. There is a tide in the affairs of men and also of families."

Alphonso Taft himself started the turn of the tide which he then predicted. His son William, who was later to have a brilliant career as Secretary of War, and still later as President, was that year entering Yale.

The Taft ancestors have been of mighty good stock. Peter Taft (1715) is reported to have been "a large, good looking man with a magnanimous disposition."

Aaron Taft, another ancestor, was also magnanimous, so much so, that he lost money by endorsing a friend's notes. Despite this fact he is reported to have been a man of great intelligence, as well as integrity. Going still further back, there was Captain William Taft who captured Blarney Castle in the 16th century.

Party Rich in Traditions.

The Republican party is not only rich in men, but rich in practical and beneficial principles. It is rich, too, in its record of promises performed and pledges fulfilled, and so we are for party and party principles first and acquiescence in the choice of the majority, rallying around the standard bearer, who will carry us again to victory.—*Hon. James S. Sherman.*

BOGUS ANCESTORS.

A Paying Business in England That Thrives Upon Snobbery.

The most tragic form of snobbery in a country place is that which concerns itself with the tracing of a pedigree. In my travels I came upon a man who confessed that he had made thousands of pounds out of the conceit and snobishness of people living in country places, and especially people who happened to possess names of a high sounding character. His method of work was simple, and only the ultra snob could be taken in by it.

He would glance through a local directory and select a few names of the Fitz-Blank style. A short visit to the town would help him to determine the character of the person—a snob is easily distinguished, and he would return to his place and write that he had come into the possession of a portrait which he had every reason to believe was that of an ancestor of Mr. Fitz-Blank.

There would be a few quaint hieroglyphics on the back of the canvas showing that the original was a native of the town in which Mr. Fitz-Blank was residing. In nine cases out of ten that picture sold at a price which meant a profit of 100 per cent to the dealer after he had paid the little Italian artist, who turned out the pictures by the dozen. In many a country house today there is a fine old full length portrait of an ancestor which was painted in a murky studio somewhere down Whitechapel way.—*Margaret Habantyne in London Saturday Journal.*

Cheap Fruit Trees.

I have 1000 first class apple trees, 3 years old, standard varieties, worth 35c each, which I will sell at 15c or \$12.50 per 100 if taken before April 15th. Will sell entire lot at 10c, purchaser to dig them. Call and examine, and if they are not excellent stock, will give them to you. 52-3 H. SPINING.

3500 feet makes it well acclimated to the Bend district. Parties contemplating planting orchards will do well to get their price lists, which can be had by writing them at Baker, Oregon. 1-4

PROVISIONS AT COST.

Having sold my bakery outfit, I have a quantity of flour, baking powder, tinware and graniteware which I will sell at wholesale prices. First to come gets this bargain. Mrs. Nellie Wright, Boyd building. **

Why get up in the night to fill the stove? Bank it with coal at night, and you need not fear that the pipes will freeze. **

JUST RECEIVED CARLOADS

...OF...

Barb Wire
NAILS
Woven Wire Fence
Doors and
Windows
Farm Implements

Get Our Prices
Before
Buying

Bend Hardware Company

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NEW FURNITURE STORE

Will contain a \$2,000 stock and be open for public inspection on.....

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Buying in Carload Lots

and the New Freight Rate puts Furniture within reach of all.

CASH Or Easy Payments.

We Have Taken Over the Entire Stock of

LUMBER

of the Pine Forest Lumber Co., and are in a position to fill orders of any size. In addition we carry a full line of

Building Material
Lime, Cement, Plaster
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