

# The Times-Herald.

VOL. XVII.

BURNS, HARNEY COUNTY, OREGON, FEBRUARY 6, 1904.

NO. 11.

## HANGING OF EGBERT

### STATE CONDUCTS FIRST EXECUTION AT PENITENTIARY.

Execution Attended by State Officials and Necessary Witnesses Only—Had Hopes to the Last.

The following account of the hanging of Harry Egbert is taken from a Salem dispatch to the Portland Telegram of Jan 29:

"My friends, take me as an example. If you have children, remember me and bring them up so that they will not follow in my steps. My heart aches for them. Keep them in at night away from the saloons and out of bad company. Bad raising and bad company brought me here. I repent of my sins and am ready to die. It is not true that I have any hatred for the woman I love. I still love her and die true to her. My heart is too full to say anything more."

With the above words fresh upon his lips, Harry D. Egbert, murderer of John G. Saxton and John West, in Harney County, October 28, 1903, paid the penalty of death for his crime and kept his resolution to die game.

The drop was released at 12:42 and in 9:18 minutes Egbert was pronounced dead.

Promptly at 12:15 o'clock this afternoon, all of the prisoners having been locked in their cells for their noon day lunch, Superintendent James went to Egbert's cell and told him that he had the death warrant, the reading of which Egbert promptly waived. Warden J. H. Curtis and Deputy Warden J. S. Smith, who had accompanied the superintendent, then stepped up and relieved the death watch and brought Egbert out of the cell. Rev. St. Pierre, the prison chaplain, who was the only minister present at the ceremony, followed along behind, and the party then descended to the prison chapel. There they were met by the guards, Stapleton, Hix, Bengen and Ross, which formed the only guard upon the occasion. With Superintendent James in the lead, followed closely by Rev. St. Pierre and the condemned man, the party proceeded by way of the rear of the building to the death chamber at the south end. Egbert walked briskly and without hesitation, and mounted the stairway with a strong and steady step. He did not hesitate nor falter when he reached the stairway which led up to the scaffold, but passed right along when so directed by Superintendent James.

Once upon the scaffold, Egbert took a hasty look at the surroundings and at the people assembled there, and then took his position by the side of Rev. St. Pierre. He then took his position upon the trap and stood calmly awaiting while the straps were being adjusted by the four guards who had accompanied him on the death march. There was nobody on the scaffold except those who had accompanied the doomed man.

The strapping process finished, the guards stepped back and Deputy Warden Smith adjusted the black cap over his face, while Rev. St. Pierre spoke a few words of encouragement in the ear of the doomed man and administered his blessing. Superintendent James adjusted the noose, and had no more than stepped back out of the way and gave the signal, when the trap was sprung at 12:30 o'clock sharp by Warden Curtis and Deputy Warden Smith.

There was a sudden twang of the rope, a snap, a slight gurgling sound and some twitching of the body.

Ten minutes later, Drs. J. D. Shaw, the prison physician, and E. A. Pierce, together with several other physicians who had been invited to attend, examined the pulse and respiration and pronounced Egbert dead.

Everything went off as smoothly and uninterruptedly and was pronounced by many of the officers present, who had seen a number of executions, as being perfect. The execution was witnessed by about

75 people all told, which filled the small space in the death chamber.

From the time of his being received at the penitentiary until the morning of his execution Egbert had perfect control over his nerves and feelings, but there were times when he seemed almost on the verge of physical collapse.

It seemed that almost all of his thoughts when he was in deep study were devoted to the woman in Eastern Oregon, to whom he said he was betrothed, and on two or three occasions he has been seized with fits of silent weeping when talking about her, but he would straighten up, wipe his tears away and say: "What is the use of worrying about her? It will do me no more good."

He did not sleep a wink on Wednesday night, and lay upon his bunk and rolled and tossed in a high state of excitement. His last night on earth he spent in writing letters to relatives and friends. Walter Cyrus, for whom Egbert had formed an attachment on account of his daily walks with him in the penitentiary yards, upon the last night with him as his watch.

When he was taken out of his cell for the purpose of having his picture taken last week, Egbert displayed his peculiar vanity by requesting that he be allowed to pose as he pleased for a picture of his own, one which he desired to send to his relatives and friends. In this picture he wore a broad smile, and placed the little finger of his right hand to his cheek, an assumed coquettish pose, but for the express purpose of displaying a silver ring which he wore upon that finger. On account of this action upon his part it was thought that there was some sentiment or romantic connection to the ring, but if there was, questioning failed to reveal it. This ring Egbert gave to Mr. Cyrus during their walk yesterday afternoon, and requested him to keep it as a remembrance.

Notwithstanding his resolution to arise early, Egbert dropped off to deep sleep and slept soundly until 10:30 o'clock, when he was awakened by the guard. He arose quickly and cheerfully, and stated that he had never felt better in his life. He was particular in his dress and ate the food that was placed before him, which he had ordered the night previously, and which consisted principally of a pint of cream and a dish of canned pears.

At 11 o'clock he came down to the barber's room and was shaved. His nerves were steady, and he was very particular about the manner in which he was shaved.

Dr. Byrd, dean of the Medical College of Willamette University, made application for the remains of Egbert, and, as no request was received from relatives or friends, it is probable Superintendent James will turn the body over to the school.

There is another interesting feature about the case of Egbert which has not yet been given publicity, and that was that he was supposed to, or at least claimed to, know who it was that supplied Tracy and Merrill with their firearms when they made their sensational escape from the penitentiary here in June, 1902. Egbert claimed that he knew who said that he would put the guns over the wall and also that he knew who had offered to put up \$50 to buy the guns. He has repeatedly intimatedly to his guard that he knew who had placed the guns within the reach of Tracy and Merrill, but the most tactful and careful question upon the part of that guard could not induce him to divulge that secret.

The officers of the prison tried every means possible to induce him to tell who did the deed before he was executed, but he maintained his stubborn silence on this point. Guard Cyrus, the last night tried very hard to get the confession out of him but he failed utterly, although he thought at one time he was going to tell it. When Cyrus put the direct question to him: "Did you put the guns over the wall?" he said that Egbert turned fairly black with rage and looked as though he would have attacked him had he

been within reach of him. He would tell Mr. Cyrus anything he asked him except this and no kind of questioning would move him to betray the guilty party or parties for some unknown reason.

### Boy's Essay on Louisiana Land.

Here is a New Orleans public school boy's ideas on the history of the Louisiana Purchase Territory.

During the centennial celebration in the Crescent City in December, the pupils in the public schools were requested to write a short composition on the purchase. One of the little fellows in the primary grade demonstrated that he had learned something of his subject and that he could tell what he knew in a few words. Listen, to the boy:

"Spain got tired of Louisiana and didn't want her. So Spain gave her to Napoleon he didn't want her, either. But he took her. Then he begged a lady to take Louisiana as a present. The lady turned up her nose and said: 'I don't want it; I wouldn't have it.'"

"So Napoleon offered to sell Louisiana to the United States. The United States was wide awake and jumped at the offer. So Louisiana was sold, and Spain and France and Napoleon all lived to see what fools they had been. But the United States only laughed in her sleeve and waved her flag across the ocean and said 'ta ta.'"

### A Cure For Eczema

My baby had Eczema so bad that its head was a solid mass of scabs, and its hair all come out. I tried many remedies but none seemed to do any permanent good until I used DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve. The Eczema is cured, the scabs are gone and the little one's scalp is perfectly clean and healthy, and its hair growing beautifully again. I cannot give too much praise to DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve.—Frank Farmer, Bluff City, Kv. In buying Witch Hazel Salve look out for counterfeits. DeWitt's is the original and the only one containing pure Witch Hazel. The name E. C. DeWitt & Co., is on every box. Sold by Burns druggists.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATOR

To all whom it may concern: Notice is hereby given that the undersigned was on the 19th day of Dec. 1903, by the County Court of Harney County Oregon, duly appointed as Executor, with will annexed, of the estate of Jorgen Jorgensen deceased, and all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same duly verified as by law required, to the undersigned, at Burns, Oregon, or to George Hayes Atty. at Law at Burns, Oregon, within six months of this date.

C. H. VOEGTLY, Executor with will annexed of the Estate of Jorgen Jorgensen deceased.

### Relief in One Minute.

One Minute Cough Cure gives relief in one minute, because it kills the microbe which tickles the mucous membrane, causing the cough, and at the same time clears the phlegm, draws out the inflammation and heals and soothes the affected parts. One Minute Cough Cure strengthens the lungs, wards off pneumonia and is a harmless and never failing cure in all curable cases of Coughs, Colds and Croup. One Minute Cough Cure is pleasant to take, harmless and good alike for young and old. Sold by Burns druggists.

Judge Biggs is becoming so wealthy that he has purchased a great big safe. Four men with a derrick moved the iron structure into his office last week taking off the door and a part of the front wall. The Judge states that it will take four men and as many horses to move it out after he gets all his worldly goods stored in it.—Prineville Journal

## POSTLUDE OF THOMSON CASE

### WHOLESALE ARRESTS MADE IN UMATILLA COUNTY.

Prominent Official and Citizens of Eastern Oregon Charged With Land Frauds By U. S. District Attorney.

As a direct result of the trial of Asa Thompson, Receiver of the La Grand Land Office, and of facts deduced from the evidence submitted at the trial, ten citizens of Eastern Oregon have been arrested on the charge of conspiracy to defraud the Government out of homestead lands.

The arrests were made at Prineville, at the instance of United States District Attorney John H. Hall, by Deputy United States Marshal Proebstel, and upon complaint filed by Special Land Inspector A. R. Greene.

Those charged with being members of the conspiracy to defraud the Government and who were arrested are:

Charles Cunningham, sheep king of Umatilla County—Charged with being the prime center of the movement in inducing to file of homesteads falsely and transfer them to him.

G. A. Hartman, County Judge of Umatilla County—Charged with taking and certifying to testimony which he knew to be false.

Asa Rayburn, Dallas O'Hara, J. H. Saling, Shelly Jones, Mark Shackleford, Kate James—Charged with filing on homesteads which had never even been seen by them and making false affidavits as to residence and improvement.

Those to be arrested are: Joseph H. Parks, rotary public—Charged with making out papers the statements in which he knew to be false. Parks has not yet been arrested, as he has been out of town, but his arrest will follow at once.

Richard Roe and John Doe. Cunningham and Hartman were released on the furnishing of bonds to the amount of \$2000 each. The others were required to give \$500 apiece, which Cunningham furnished in all cases.

Sells Cattle in California

C. J. Johnson returned Saturday from Oroville, Cal., where he sold 738 head of cattle during the past two months. The bunch was made up of yearlings and 2-year-olds and a few cows and the entire number brought \$21 per head.

Mr. Johnson started with his herd about the first of last September, driving them overland. He expected to find stock conditions in their prime, but reached California just in time to find the market flooded with cattle and sheep which had been brought in over the southern trails. A continued drought of 8 months was also a factor in reducing stock prices.—Prineville Journal.

Have You Indigestion.

If you have Indigestion, Kodol Dyspepsia Cure will cure you. It has cured thousands. It is curing people every day—every hour. You owe it to yourself to give it a trial. You will continue to suffer until you do try it. There is no other combination of digestants that digest and rebuild at the same time. Kodol does both. Kodol cures, strengthens and rebuilds. Sold by Burns Druggists.

First Church Christ Scientist, services Sunday 3 p. m., at the parlors of the Cottage Hotel. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7:30

Killed by Runaway Team.

Clayton Birk Hinton, a young man well and favorably known throughout this locality, was almost instantly killed at about 4 o'clock Thursday afternoon, January 23.

While feeding stock a short distance east of this place, the team Mr. Hinton was driving became frightened at a loose horse near, and started to run. In passing over some sidling ground the wagon came very near upsetting, causing Mr. Hinton to jump off the hay rack and in doing so he slipped and fell, one of the wheels which were of the low metal pattern, passed over his head, cutting the top of the skull completely off. Several parties were near enough

to witness the accident but unable to render any assistance.

The body was brought to town and a message immediately sent to the unfortunate man's father, W. W. Hinton who resides at Huntington, and who reached this place Friday.

The funeral took place at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon, after which the grief stricken father accompanied by many friends, followed poor Clayton Hinton to his last resting place in the Westfall cemetery.—Western Wav.

George Grace Dead.

After a long illness of cancer of the stomach, George W. Grace, a well known merchant and politician of Clackamas county, died at his home at Oregon City Tuesday evening last. Mr. Grace was an active worker for the good of Clackamas county. He ran unsuccessfully against George C. Brownell for the State Senate at the last election. He was about 50 years of age and besides his brother, Hon. W. E. Grace, of Baker city, a brother resides at Oregon City.

THE EAST FOR IRRIGATION.

The Merchants' association of New York, an immense and influential organization comprising the principal business houses of the metropolis, has been making a study of the general question of irrigation and forestry as related to manufacturing and sales of factory goods, and at its annual meeting decided to lend the subject its actual support.

The matter has been in the hands of a special committee appointed last spring. The association concluded that the settlement of the arid land by home-builders was a subject in which they were deeply and directly interested and that they could lend their support to no movement, development of South American trade, expansion of the Oriental markets, or anything else which promised such returns as the habilitation of arid America.

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