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ATHENA, JUNE 13, 1905

E. B. Cople, special agent of the general land office, has made a demand upon the Barber Lumber company of Boise City for \$12,000 for 1,700,000 feet of logs cut. The claim will be contested. A very interesting point is involved in the controversy arising from a recent decision of the United States circuit court of appeals affirming a decision rendered by Judge Beatty construing the meaning of the law, which authorizes the cutting of timber from mineral lands for domestic purposes. That decision was in effect that mineral lands were only lands such as are in the neighborhood of land known to contain mineral. The Barber company cut these logs on ground which is in the general neighborhood of mineral lands and rests entirely upon this decision for its defense. As no definite limits have been set by the courts the decision admits of great latitude and timber companies may use their own discretion according to the claim now made in settling the point.

The names of five great men stand before all others in the government under which we now live: George Washington, for his service in winning the independence for the United States and the weight of wisdom with which he set the new government in operation; James Madison, for taking the principal part in the framing of the constitution; Alexander Hamilton, for persuading the people to adopt the constitution and for his bold measures which gave shape and strength to the federalist party; Thomas Jefferson, for illustrating the true principles of democracy, and for the sagacity with which he conducted the first great change of party supremacy in 1801; John Marshall, for his work as chief justice of the United States from 1800 to 1835, in interpreting its elasticity and strength by his profound judicial decisions. These five men, more than any others, have shaped the whole future of American history.

A wail, long, loud and plaintive is going up from Hailey, Idaho. The cause is that out of seven teachers there last year, five have resigned to get married. The epidemic is also said to have spread to the Hailey girls teaching at distant points and the citizens are greatly excited over the matter. So discouraged are the directors that there are serious hints that they intend asking to be relieved of their arduous positions or will demand a

large salary, as the work of keeping Hailey in school ma'ams is too hard to be undertaken without pay.

To write the first draft on a slate, that erasures might easily be made, to copy in pencil on soft paper, and make more changes, and finally after many days and alterations to arrive at a neat and flawless manuscript—this was the painstaking method of the late Gen. Lew Wallace. But "Ben Hur" was worth the trouble.

The Weston Leader tells of Weston money being lost on a foot race between McQueen of Milton and one Cox of Athena. From the lesson given Weston sports by "Scotty," one would suppose they had a superfluous sufficiency in the foot race game.

"In the streets of St. Petersburg every third person wears crepe," says the Associated Press correspondent. And all because of their ruler's desire for more of a frozen land on the other side of the world.

The vermiform appendix has been found to be useful. But the discovery comes too late for the appendix generation.

GOSSIP FROM RABBITVILLE.

(Irrigon Irrigator).

A lady went into the City drug store the other evening and asked for ten cents' worth of powder. The clerk said, "Face, gun or bug?" smart like. The lady said, "Neither; for trash like you—lice." Some of these clerks get awful fresh but that one is not as fresh as he was.

It is rumored that old man Bunco has brought a lawsuit against the town for \$15,000. He says he was brought here under false pretenses. We ain't in it, but we heard a lawyer say that Bunco had buncoed the town worse than the town had buncoed Bunco, and that he won't get a millionth part of a cent in a million years.

The City drug store is now offering a splendid assortment of ladies' hose, of the same pattern as those worn on Fifth avenue, New York, by the highest society ladies. The prices average three pairs for two bits, but some are as dear as 18 cents the pair.

A donation party lit at the parsonage last Wednesday night. After eating up all the grub found in the dominie's larder they deposited their gifts and departed, leaving the dominie rich by a dozen eggs, a mess of greens, 18 rabbits, a can of tomatoes, six boxes of matches, two dozen paper napkins, a bale of hay and a tooth brush. From a financial standpoint it was a success—for the visitors. Another affair of the kind would send the dominie and his family to the poor farm.

The Ady's Laid society met at Deacon Hardup's last Friday p. m. We were passing the house while the meeting was in session and stopped at the gate long enough to hear what was going on inside. We would not like to say the females were scrapping, but they were using language which we will not circulate until we have it fumigated. As we left, the half of a brick was hurled through the window and took off the top of the gatepost we had been leaning against. We think it was thrown by Miss Violet Appleblossom, but we bear Violet no malice. It would not be safe to bear anything against a maiden who could heave a brick with the force of a pile-driver.

Mary Jane Babcock bought a new pair of them long, fancy Fifth avenue hose at the City drug store last week. After she got into them she sauntered down Main street, and when she got in front of the barber shop a gust of wind struck her abaft. Well, there were never before seen such a pair of barber poles as Mary Jane showed the boys that day. Saunter often when

the wind blows, Mary Jane.

The city barber got mad because we criticized his tonsorial methods and professional ability and undertook to assault us on the street last Saturday. We were in a hurry at the time and he followed us into the Bunco hon and out through the yard. We began to climb over the back fence, sort of luring him on. Somehow we got fastened between him and the fence, then I nearly wore out the toe of his boot on the seat of my pants. If three or four busybodies hadn't come out and took us off of him we'd bet we'd used him up pretty bad. He's no good and we'll never swallow another drop of this lather if we get whiskers down to our fetlocks. He said we hadn't put it in the paper, but we ain't no coward.

If the assistant bartender—we mean the prescription clerk—at the City drug store would put on a clean collar the customers would appreciate it.

Hardy Hardiron, our blacksmith, has invented a poetry machine. It is built something like a mechanical typesetter. There is boxes for verbs, nouns, adjectives and all the parts of speech, and a lot of stopes to regulate the feet, meter, etc. You load it with words and then turn on the power. Here he had to run it with a mule and it didn't work very smooth. So Hardy sent it down to the Oregonian, and Mr. Love is using it, but so far not very successfully. The inventor thinks they do not oil it properly or use power enough, or perhaps sprained it with French words which makes the output rough and lumpy. Hardy is going to Portland to give them some instructions. So we expect to see the Oregonian turn out a lot of classics this summer.

Peter Peterson was baptized again last Sunday. He was baptized about a month ago but it didn't take.

There is a new kid out at the Si Butterbottom residence. Deacon Hardup stopped in and said to Si: "It looks a heap like you, Si." Si's wife heard it and came out and gave the deacon the frosty eye. And the hired girl, who is the mother of the little shaver, didn't look pretty much pleased either. Deacons sometimes butt in where angels would have cold feet.

The City drug store has received an elegant stock of ladies' corsets, at prices ranging all the way from 15 to 35 cents per corset.

Major Fairplay is sporting a new silk hat. He must be on the mash again.

THE OPEN RIVER.

(Lewiston Tribune.)

The visiting statesmen at the centennial commemoration of the old Oregon country in Portland yesterday dwelt much upon the splendid career now opening for the Pacific coast through the markets recently coming within the American sphere from Hawaii, the Philippines, the orient, Alaska and the Panama canal. Considering the place, the occasion and the circumstances it is fair to assume that special reference was intended to the cities of Portland, Tacoma, Seattle and San Francisco as the chief beneficiaries of this new and prospective commerce. A broader view of the material events now being acclaimed would seem, however, to point to the opening of the inland water highway as having a more commanding influence on the opulence and welfare of the people and on commercial relations with the teeming orient than the ethical ceremonies held yesterday, or than the seaboard cities of the coast could otherwise bring into realization. They at most are mere transfer stations for commerce and the commerce itself must come from the country drained into the inland waterways. We need not minimize the moral and artistic elements at work in Portland in order at the same time to give full effect to the even greater relation of the interior country to the shaping of the destinies extolled in the commemorative exercises. Here is where the foundation rests. These waving wheat fields, that shame the Dakotas in comparison; the vineyards and orchards, that mchungs California can never equal; these forests, whose rich products find markets as far distant as Europe; these pastures, whose qualities of fat herds stand at the top; even the mountains, bursting with mineral wealth, the whole containing all the potentialities that enter into the happiness and contentment of mankind—here is where the real strength of the "Old Oregon" territory lies and where the sinews must come from, if at all, that are to draw the orient to the occident.

The appropriate, the material celebration of the day, therefore, lies in the pioneer expedition sent forth to-day that marks the possession of an independent route from the field of the raw material of the country to a connection with the white-winged messengers of commerce that take it to exchange for other values. We do not know but that we are in this modest beginning even now working a revolution, peaceful, quiet and slow, perhaps, but as far-reaching and important in its results as any revolution of arms in the century just completed. It is well to rejoice with Portland in the splendid edifice it has erected to the progress and achievement of the century that has so fitting a culmination, but it seems even better to make known and exalt the contemporary fact that commerce has been liberated, that industry's success has been made more certain, that tolling humanity has something to hope for from the way being made open from the very fields themselves to their customers in all the marts of the world.

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