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ATHENA, SEPTEMBER 15, 1905

The farmers of eastern Washington are entitled to every cent they can obtain for their wheat, and if the combine now being organized results in giving them 75 cents instead of 65 cents a bushel they may be congratulated. Complaint has been made, says the Spokesman-Review, more than once that the coast millers have organized to keep prices down, and though the millers emphatically deny the charge, the idea has taken deep root in the minds of the farmers and will not be displaced. It is believed, moreover, that the market price of wheat will advance beyond the present figures and that by withholding the 2,000,000 bushels which it is expected to control under this combine of the farmers the higher price will materialize the sooner. There is no question that agreements affecting the price of wheat have existed and do exist among millers and dealers whereby the farmers are placed at a disadvantage, and in this matter, as in other combinations and corporate schemes into which they have entered, the farmers are simply adopting measures to protect themselves and get a fair price for their produce.

Charles F. Lord's \$50,000 damage suit against United States District Attorney Francis J. Heney has come to an abrupt conclusion. The demurrer filed in behalf of Mr. Heney by Henry E. McGinn was sustained by Judge Frazier, who ruled that a public official could not be sued civilly

for acts done in pursuance of his duty. Lord's suit was based on the fact that the district attorney caused him to be indicted for conspiracy to obstruct justice in connection with the land fraud prosecutions.

While the Elephantine Oregonian has been engaged in the unmasking business, it certainly looks as though Sam Jackson was doing a few stunts with the veil himself. Eh, "Jack?" While Editor Scott is eternally anxious to let the people of Oregon know who is behind the Journal, why not give a little information pertaining to the Oregonian? There may be people in Oregon who would like to know whether Bros. Scott and Pittack alone furnish the duets to make the ghost walk in the Oregonian print shop.

Wisconsin newspapers are all sending out 28 page supplements. Under a new statute, the laws enacted at each session of the legislature are published in every paper in the state whose publisher is willing to perform that service for \$100. Few decline, and thus there goes a copy of the session laws into nearly every home. The Wisconsin plan certainly makes ignorance of the law an inexcusable morally as legally.

There were 263,233 Indians on reservations in the United States in 1903. The reservations that year in the aggregate had an area of 117,420 square miles. In 1903 there were, according to the annual report of the commissioner of Indian affairs, 3924 Indians in Oregon occupying reservations that in the aggregate cover 2031 square miles.

RIOTING IN JAPAN.

(Portland Journal.)

The news of rioting in Japan will carry with it a distinctly new impression of the Japanese people. It was believed that they were a unit on everything relating to the war, that whatever their rulers did was perfectly satisfactory to them and such was their confidence that there could not come a set of conditions where they would fail to perfectly agree. During the whole war and while blood and treasure were being poured forth in an almost unprecedented torrent they never quailed or hesitated, but when it came to arranging the terms of peace and when they realized all the war had cost them and began to set at corresponding figures the recompense that should come to them, it is evident that they were grievously dis-

appointed. It is also evident that the divine right of kings when the matter is brought to its ultimate showdown is of no more powerful influence in the east than it is in the west. There is evidently abroad even in Japan a spirit of democracy that cannot be satisfied with mere words. There is this much in its favor, that whatever may have been said to the contrary, and whatever may have appeared, public opinion must be as much respected in Japan as it is elsewhere over the civilized world. It is rather amazing that the only discordant note from the universal downpour of praise showered upon President Roosevelt for his effort to bring about the peace treaty is heard from Japan. It is likewise of a good deal of interest that Mr. Harriman, who was so recently with us, should have been one of the objects of the bitter display. This attack was undoubtedly due to the fact that he is a conspicuous American, though it may have been accentuated by any news that has gotten over there concerning his asserted plan to monopolize the railroad interests of the country. The demonstrations and what have followed them are significant as showing the Japanese in a new light and in disclosing that they are no longer a unit regarding everything appertaining to the war.

MR. CLEVELAND'S INCOME.

(Harper's Weekly.)

Mr. Cleveland's income from his investments is between \$9000 and \$10,000, to which he adds an average of about \$3000 by writing occasional essays for publication.

Some years ago Mr. Cleveland had \$5000 to spare, and Mr. Benedict obtained for him the right to subscribe for the stock of a projected trust company. The knowledge that the ex-President was to become one of their shareholders inspired the promoters with a brilliant idea. After consultation, they sought Mr. Benedict and though him offered Mr. Cleveland the presidency of the company, at a salary of \$50,000 a year. It was a legitimate undertaking, backed by reputable men, but Mr. Cleveland somewhat reluctantly declined, on the ground that he was unacquainted with the details of the business, and that the condition of his health would not permit of the severe application requisite to effective service. Again he was urged to accept, with the assurance that his duties would be nominal, his mere official connection with the company being considered sufficient recompense for his remuneration.

Mr. Cleveland replied simply that that would seem to him too much like selling the use of his name, which, of course, he could not do. That closed the incident.

METROPOLITAN CYNICISM.

(Harper's Weekly.)

New England, speaking through its recognized mouthpieces, the Springfield Republican and Boston Transcript, is justly proud of the fact that Colonel Jacob L. Greene, for 25 years president of the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance company, with 65 millions of assets, died leaving an estate of only \$55,000. Such an example, indicative of the highest probity, is surely worthy of particular mention at this particular time. We wonder how much environment had to do with it. Suppose their places had been reversed. Would Colonel Greene, in New York, have felt any sense of wrong in participating to a small degree in underwritings? On the other hand, would Mr. Alexander, in Hartford, have ever thought of doing such a thing? In our opinion, neither was ever for an instant consciously dishonest. The simple fact is that the standard is higher in New England than in New York. It is bad form, in Springfield particularly, to do things that would be regarded as mere evidences of creditable smartness in this wicked town—with apologies to the Transcript—in Boston. The bigness of a community, rendering inconsequential social disapproval, and swelling the don't-give-a-damn-what-people-think spirit, has a most depressing effect upon the ethics of human living.

A SOUTHWESTERN TYPE.

(Boston Herald.)

Temple Houston, youngest son of General Sam Houston, who may be called the creator of the republic of Texas, has recently died in Oklahoma. Temple Houston was one of the strange, abnormal characters that achieve notoriety on the frontier. He did not like to be referred to as the son of Sam Houston, preferring to have a reputation of his own, and he won it. He was abnormal in his physical proportions, in his mental traits and in his notion of becoming attire. He had talent, a considerable acquaintance with books, a love for liquor and for tabasco sauce, and was a compound of feminine sensitiveness and brawling habits. By profession he was a lawyer, and a successful one in the courts of the Southwest. He had been a senator in Texas, and was a fervid, imaginative orator. His courage was unquestioned, and he had killed his man in a saloon fight. He was one of those true tale of whose lives seems stranger than fiction. He died when 45 years old of a stomach trouble caused by intemperance.

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