LEBANON EXPRESS.

He who thinks to please the World is dullest of his kind; for let him face which way he will, one-half is yet behind.

VOL. V. | LEBANON, OREGON, FRIDAY, MAY 1. 1891. | NO. 8.

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A Good Shave, Shampoo, Hair Cut, Cleaned or Dressed.

Hot and Cold Baths at all Hours.

Children Kindly treated. Calland see me.

FOREIGN.

The entire Portuguese cabinet resigned April 15.

The czar has ordered the expulsion of all Jews from all parts of Russia except Poland and about a dozen southern provinces.

Bishop Racine of Sherbrooke, Quebec, has issued a mandment urging the French Canadians to go to the new districts of the province instead of the United States.

The insurgents have defeated 3000 of Balmaceda's men at Copiapo, Chile, and are about to advance on the capital.

The Canadian government does not intend to tinker the tariff at the coming session of parliament.

Russia is increasing her military force.

The Mexican-Guatemala claims commission has about finished its labors. The Guatemalans presented claims for $2,138,379 and the Mexicans for $1,557,232. The claims disallowed are $227,727 for Gautemala and $449,799 for Mexico. The time allowed for presenting more claims has passed.

The grip has trebled the death rate in Hull.

Flour sells for 22 cents a pound in Chile and starvation has nearly as many victims as the civil war.

Two hundred families at King's Cove, Nova Scotia, are reported starving.

The Manipuris are not subdued and the British have sent forth heavy forces and expect hard fighting.

The grip is increasing in severity in England and on the continent.

There has been much rioting by striking weavers in London of late, resulting in many broken heads.

EAST AND SOUTH

VIA

Southern Pacific Route.

THE MOUNT SHASTA ROUTE.

EXPRESS TRAINS LEAVE PORTLAND DAILY:

7:00 P. M.	Lv	Portland	Ar	9:25 A. M.
10:20 P. M.	Lv	Albany	Ar	6:15 A. M.
10:15 A. M.	Ar	San Francisco	Lv	9:00 P. M.

Above trains stop only at the following stations north of Roseburg: East Portland, Oregon City, Woodburn, Salem, Albany, Tangent, Shedds, Halsey, Harrisburg, Junction City, Irving and Eugene.

Roseburg Mail—Daily.

8:00 A. M.	Lv	Portland	Ar	4:00 P. M.
12:20 P. M.	Lv	Albany	Ar	12:00 M.
3:40 P. M.	Ar	Roseburg	Lv	6:20 A. M.

Albany Local Daily (Except Sunday.)

5:00 P. M.	Lv	Portland	Ar	9:00 A. M.
9:00 P. M.	Ar	Albany	Lv	5:00 A. M.

Local Passenger Trains—Daily Except Sunday.

2:35 P. M.	Lv	Albany	Ar	9:25 A. M.
2:25 P. M.	Ar	Lebanon	Lv	9:40 A. M.
7:30 A. M.	Lv	Albany	Ar	4:25 P. M.
8:22 A. M.	Ar	Lebanon	Lv	3:40 P. M.

PULLMAN BUFFET SLEEPERS.

Tourist Sleeping Cars

For accommodation of Second-Class Passengers, attached to Express tra'ns.

WEST SIDE DIVISION.

BETWEEN PORTLAND AND CORVALLIS.

Mail Train Daily (Except Sunday.)

7:30 A. M.	Lv	Portland	Ar	5:20 P. M.
12:10 P. M.	Ar	Corvallis	Lv	12:35 P. M.

At Albany and Corvallis connect with trains of Oregon Pacific Railroad.

(Express Train Daily Except Sunday.)

4:40 P. M.	Lv	Portland	Ar	8:20 A. M.
7:25 P. M.	Ar	McMinnville	Lv	5:45 A. M.

☞ Through tickets to all points East and South. For tickets and full information regarding rates, maps, etc., call on Co's agent at Lebanon.

R. KOEHLER, Manager. E. P. ROGERS, Asst G. F. & P. Agt

General News.

UNITED STATES.

The rope carrying a car in the shaft of the Philadelphia colliery at Pottsville, Pa., broke April 15 while the cage was coming up with nine men on it. Three of them jumped off at the first landing and the others fell 300 feet. All got broken arms and legs, but, strange to say, four are expected to recover.

Stanley has gone to England.

Three small sons of Thomas Muneo, residing near Washington, found a partly empty nitro-glycerine can April 12 and threw stones at it. One of the stones struck the can and then there was only one boy there and he was dying. The others were scattered over four townships.

The government's case against the whisky trust, accused of hiring a man to blow up the Shufeldt independent distillery with dynamite, is growing remarkably strong.

Spotted fever is raging at Mesquite, Tex.

T. Martin, ex-president of the Dover (N. H.) Shoe company, has been arrested on a charge of embezzling stock to the amount of $50,000 from Adolph Meyers & Co. of Boston.

Dr. Pides, one of the most prominent physicians of Wheeling, W. Va., and Taylor Foreman, superintendent of the county poor farm, have been arrested on a warrant charging them with grave robbery.

Upon the recommendation of the civil service commissioners President Harrison has ordered the classification, under the civil service, of the school superintendents, their assistants, school teachers, physicians and matrons in the Indian service.

The report of a combination of the sugar trust, the independent refineries and the wholesale grocers' association of the middle and eastern states to control prices is confirmed.

Mrs. James G. Blaine, Jr., has gone to South Dakota to acquire a residence and secure a divorce, after which, it is reported, she will marry Dr. Bull of New York, who attended her through her late illness. Her husband has gone to Europe to avoid an appearance in the divorce court.

N. P. Shafer's office at Scranton, Pa., caught fire several times in different parts of the room recently with no apparent cause. Investigation by a chemist showed that liquid had been spilled about the room which, when a certain point in evaporation is reached, blazes.

E. T. Young eloped from Kentucky with F. C. Cash's wife. Cash got a divorce and then followed them, overtook them in Texas and shot Young dead. He was tried for murder and acquitted April 11 and he and Mrs. Cash were remarried the same day.

Silas Slaughter, a horse thief, deserted his wife and moved from Parkersburg, W. Va., into Calhoun county, and changed his name, to Walker four years ago. Recently he applied for a pension giving, of course, his right name, and this has led to his arrest.

United States Treasurer Huston has resigned and Enos H. Nebecker has been appointed to succeed him.

The Indians in Colorado and New Mexico have lost many thousand cattle, horses and sheep through severe weather.

Eben Tourjee is dead.

Constable Green, who was searching for evidence against violators of the liquor law in Burlington, Ia., April 13, was set upon by twenty or thirty of the lawbreakers and beaten almost to a jelly.

The Farmers' Alliance is almost certain to run a presidential ticket next year. Judge Gresham is "talked of."

A crazy woman in the poorhouse at Birmingham, Al., set fire to it April 13 and it was burned with one bedridden inmate in it.

Adam Itzel, musical director of the McCaull opera company, arrived at Chicago April 12, got into a hack clad only in his underclothes, drove to the Leland hotel, sent for a blanket and, clad in this, entered the hotel. His clothing had been stolen on the train from Baltimore while he was asleep.

A party of boys returning from Sunday school at Pittsburg, Pa., April 12, stole a can of giant powder from a factory, built a fire and burned it to see the fun. Michael O'Toole and Edward Caldwell, aged about 12, were killed, and none of them saw any fun in it.

A cyclone destroyed the courthouse at Hansford, Tex., April 17, killing two men and injuring another, and wrecked the little town of Paludona, Oklahoma.

Current News.

Southern California at Chicago.

The southern California citrus exhibition was the most elaborate and perfect of its kind ever seen. Starting at the door the visitor saw a glorious orange thirty-seven feet in circumference made up of thousands of smaller fruit. Behind it were the rest of the orange county products in the form of banks and pyramids of limes, lemons and oranges with a car wheel, indicating that all are sold in carload lots. To the left is the additional display made by Cucamonga of oil, wine and other things.

Then came the beautiful arch, forty-six feet in span, of Redlands, San Bernardino county, representing in its background the Bear valley dam. Next was an exhibit from Ontario of a car composed of oranges. The upper San Gabriel valley with separate exhibits from its three towns, Glendora, Covina and Azusa, showed a model of Cleopatra's Needle and an immense mass of fruit. An interesting feature of the exhibit was the courthouse of Los Angeles, standing upon an eminence and built, except the clock, of mandarin oranges and limes.

The bay and harbor of San Diego, with Point Loma, were represented, gulches and all, in the gold-yellow fruit, with orange and lemon-laden ships, wharves and piers. The exhibit of various products followed.

A beautiful model of the old mission of the Franciscan monks at San Gabriel stood at one side of the entrance, with steps, ruined walls and the old Spanish belfry carefully portrayed. In the center were architectural designs not less pretentious and impressive.

Duarte had a great mosque, crescent-topped, admitting a score of persons beneath its bulging minaret, while to the north was the great obelisk of Pasadena. This alone required 24,000 oranges of assorted kinds, navels, St. Michaels, Malta Bloods and Mediterranean sweets, the choicest of all the golden coast products. Nearly 200 boxes made thirty-eight feet of solid oranges, with palms and pampas plumes atop, bringing the total hight of the column to fifty feet.

The Santa Barbara exhibit was in hard luck. The first night out, before it had crossed the mountains, the train tumbled down an embankment and left nothing but fragments. With characteristic enterprise, a new lot of fruit was exhibited by the third day of the exhibit, and the original idea of a beautiful tropical garden carried out. At the entrance to this garden stood two great fan palms. Behind them were strawberry guava of Japan full fruit, from which comes the famous jelly, and the Abyssinia banana, both in fruit and flower, the latter measuring some ten feet in length. There was also a lime nearly ten inches in length having all the flavor of the smaller fruit without its excessive acidity. Custard apples, Cherymoya, Eygptian papyrus, giant bamboo, branches of a she-oak from a tree 5 years old and fifty-two feet in height.

Then there were two date palms containing six bunches of fruit weighing from sixty to eighty pounds apiece, a branch from a lemon tree eleven feet long, all grown in one season of four months. All this, with raisins and olive, citron, lemon and orange trees in both blossom and fruit, hardly gives a complete idea of the finest exhibit ever made.

Stanford University Faculty.

Dr. Jordan has completed his arrangements for the appointment of the faculty for the Stanford University and has made the following names public:

Dr. Andrew White, ex-president of Cornell University, to be non-resident professor of history.

F. Stanford, Lake Forest University, associate professor of physics.

Horace B. Gale, Washington University, St. Louis, professor of mechanical engineering.

Professor Joseph Swain, Indiana University, associate professor of mathematics.

Doughlas H. Campbell, Indiana University, associate professor of botany.

Mr. Blaine Concedes Nothing.

Secretary of State Blaine has at last replied at length to the demand of the king of Italy in regard to the New Orleans lynching. He says first, that the only criminal proceedings possible will probably be those in the state courts, though the question has been submitted to the United States attorney general; second, the treaty with Italy does not guarantee any money indemnity to the Italians or their families, but only the same protection afforded to United States citizens, and that is the right to sue the members of the mob for damages; third, if the authorities of Louisiana had due notice of the intention of the lynchers and did not attempt to prevent their action, and if any of the men who were killed were Italian citizens who resided in this country "not in violation of our immigration laws" (this bars out at least three of the four claimed to have been Italian citizens who were criminals whose immigration was illegal) the president would feel that a case had been established which should be submitted to congress with a view to the relief of the families of such Italian citizens.

Mr. Blaine says: "I am directed by the president to express the satisfaction of his government with the very material qualification of his demand made by the marquis Rudini on behalf of the Italian government." But he gives no encouragement to expect that even the modified demands of Italy will be acceded to.

Farm Notes.

Pertinent Paragraphs.

Ostrich farming is not a bonanza to the man without experience. The 162 ostriches on the farm of the California Ostrich company at Anaheim, valued at $30,000 and assessed for $11,000, have been sold for $6000. We wouldn't advise any young man with $500 capital and no experience to go into ostrich farming for profit.

The owners of 8000 acres of vineyards in the Saratoga district of the Santa Clara valley have combined with two objects, first, to market their own wines in the east, without carrying the burden of middlemen, and, second, to see that no poor wine goes out with the brand of the organization. There is an enormous difference between the price the producer gets for all kinds of crops and the price the consumer pays, and a large part of the difference can be saved to the producer, in almost every product, by such a combination managed with ability and honesty.

Foreign Practice.

An Hanoverian farmer, chiefly engaged in calf-fatting, was not able to push forward the animals sufficiently rapidly for the market. The milk he utilized was creamed; linseed meal was employed to supply the absence of milk-fat, but did not suit. He purchased what he calls ox "kidney fat" or tallow, and melting it added it to the warmed milk. At first the calves disliked the mixture, but took to it in the end, even when scales of grease were on the milk. The butchers, he states, prefer his veal to that of other fatteners.

Professor Nathorst of Sweden is occupied with the question, how to augment the richness of milk without diminishing its quantity. He totally objects to crossing breeds of milk cows to effect that end. He has tried the union of the Jersey and the Dutch or Freisian races, but the result was illusory. Next he studied the question of alimentation, and naturally noted that rich rations tended to rich milk; but they did not at all increase the secretion in the case of cows yielding rich milk. Ultimately he decided to analyze the percentage of fat in the milk yielded by each cow of the Dutch breed; he found much variation under this head. But he selected the best butter animals and, breeding from them, has now a most satisfactory herd of dairy stock. There is nothing new in the principle; patience, time and careful selection will develop and increase good points perhaps in every animal.

The very interesting discussion continues, before the academy of sciences, between the two eminent chemists, Messrs. Schloesing and Berthelot, on the subject of the absorption of atmospheric nitrogen directly by the soil. The question divides continental chemists into two opposite camps. Awaiting the agreement of the doctors, the situation appears to be this: That nothing definite has been established by any of the experiments. Galieu says yes; Hippocrates, no. Berthelot, among other investigations, has sent electric currents through vases, containing soil and growing plants. The soils electrified were found to be richer in nitrogen than those not electrified. The only step this delicate subject has made in advance is the discovery that microbes, while executing their role of grand decomposers and disintegrators of organic matters, favor the absorption of nitrogen by the soil and by the plant. But what effect would Berthelot's electric current have upon this lowest form of parasite life? Can the victim resist the executioner?—Cor. New England Farmer.

A New Class.

For fifty years to come horticultural interests will probably increase, and among horticulturists the skilled fruit-grower, owning from ten to fifty acres of land, will best represent his class. Such a person is likely to be more of a business man than the average farmer, and is in closer relations to town and city life. He is compelled to travel more, watches the markets and the fields of invention closer and represents, all in all, a finer type. A California fruit-grower is in some respects akin to the middle class of suburban dwellers near Boston and New York, with this very important difference, that he actually and constantly makes his living from the soil he owns. The one tendency of his life is toward what may be termed "extreme Californianism" for he is growing almonds or oranges or something or other that cannot be produced at a profit in many other places on the continent, and the "glorious climate" is his best friend. But, on the other hand, he is in a skilled business, full of technical details, requiring plenty of brain work, and he is selling in the world's markets. Many a California grower of raisins, oranges, walnuts, olives, prunes or other horticultural products goes to Chicago and New York every autumn "to keep the run of the field." The drift of Pacific coast life is toward a rapid increase of the number of orchardists. They are organized, too, in a manner unknown among the farmers, and have several times shown unsuspected courage in independent politics. Some of these days professional politicians will have to deal with a new factor—the horticulturist, a distinct evolution from the conservative American farmer type, quicker of brain, less wedded to party bonds, and more capable of understanding the interests of the commonwealth.—Charles H. Shinn in the Popular Monthly for April.

The Burlington road's switchmen are on strike.

Growing Mangels.

The following hints on the growing of Mangel Beets have been kindly furnished by Mr. W. C. Damon of Napa:

Beets do best in a deep, sandy loam, mainly because such soil is easily kept moist by working. But they will do equally well in black adobe or yellow clay, when thoroughly cultivated so as to retain the moisture. Any land adapted to corn or potatoes will produce good beets. They also do well in alkali land, and will extract the alkali, thus improving the soil for other crops. Beets do not exhaust the soil more than wheat. They are great air feeders, gathering all their sugar through their leaves, and taking nothing from the soil except water and a slight trace of salts. Like all vegetables, they do best in rich, strong land. I never irrigate my beets, though a moderate use of water will improve the crop. If manure is used it must be old and well rotted, as green manure renders the soil too porous and the crop will dry out if not irrigated after July.

The land should be plowed in the fall and left as rough and well drained as possible through the winter. In March or April it should be plowed again, but not harrowed down until the heavy rains are over. Then lay off the ground as for corn, in rows one way, four feet apart, for Long Red Mangels; but Yellow Globe, or Sugar Beets should be planted three feet apart. Sift in the seed with the hand, walking at full pace, using from five to seven pounds to the acre. Cover with the harrow; if early, one or two inches deep by harrowing with the rows and no clodding or rolling afterward, as a heavy rain after planting will harden the land if it is left too smooth; if late, plant four inches deep by harrowing across the rows, and clod-mash or roll thoroughly afterwards, to hold the moisture. Two men can plant five acres in a day, and no tools are needed except a corn-marker and a harrow. I never use a seed drill. Success depends largely upon planting at the right time. The seed must not be planted too early, as heavy rains after planting will harden the earth around the roots. April is generally the best time to plant, or even May, if the land is kept moist.

The Long Red Mangel yields the largest crop on a deep, rich soil, often producing 25 to 40 tons per acre. It can be pulled without the spade, comes out clean and is very brittle, crisp and tender. If harvested about Christmas it can be corded up like wood, (not piled in a heap) in a cool, dry place, and it will keep nicely until June. The air must circulate through the mass to prevent moulding. Wilting does not injure, but improves them. When harvesting, clean off all dirt and cut the tops closely.

The Yellow Globe Mangel is more turnip-shaped, and less brittle and watery; it yields well, is very easily pulled, and does better on a thin, dry soil than any other variety. The Sugar Beet is smaller and grows more in the ground, but it is richer in sugar, and yields great crops on good soil. But the Long Red is the general favorite, and very extensively grown by dairymen, though the others may be better for horses.

Never use hot water on the seed; it is liable to weaken the germ, if it does not utterly destroy it. I have found the following treatment very successful: Three or four days before planting, dip the sack of seed in a tub of milk-warm water, and leave it there one day. Then take it out and lay it in the warm sun. Cover it up at night. Every morning dip the sack in warm water (a moment or two), and leave it in the sun. The object is to keep the seed moist and warm, but not to leave it under water after the first day. In about four days the sprouts will begin to appear.

Now plant it, and if the soil is moist and warm it will come up within ten days. But it must be planted in moist soil, of course, or it will dry out. Seed planted before the first of April need not be soaked.

After the plants are well started they should be thinned out. One every six inches is enough, and later still remove half of these, leaving them a foot apart for Long Red. Do not neglect this if you want large beets. One hoeing is enough, but keep the ground well-stirred with the cultivator the first part of the season. It will pay to go over it every two weeks in May and June.

Bird Seed.

Whoever buys bird seed at retail pays a huge profit to the dealer, even when weighed out of seeds in bulk; to use the pound paste-board boxes is still more costly. These are often adulterated with millet, which no bird eats unless forced by hunger; well-fed birds waste it so much the package might as well be weighed with sand. I sowed some German rape from one of these mixtures. When it grew it was wild mustard or charlock, Sinapis arvensis. But it is good bird seed all the same, and it may be gathered in quantity from the fields in many places. Pull the plants and hang them in bunches till dry, then the seed can be cleaned very easily. Turnips set out in spring will yield bird seed, and mustard seed may be fed to some extent. Canary grass sown in garden drills a foot apart, and kept hoed, will yield a long succession of heads, first from the top of the stem then from the lower points. Cut, not pull, them as they ripen, dry and rub them out, winnow in a large pan. Hemp is easily grown in the garden or any out of the way corner. Some hemp plants are males, pull them up mostly as soon as you can tell them—their flowers swing by fine threads, the females are in thick, erect spikes. One male plant is enough to keep. Turkeys will break down hemp sometimes, and hens will eat up canary grass if they can get to it.—Vick's Magazine for April.

Woman's World.

Current Comment.

Miss L. E. McElroy is the first female notary public in California. She was commissioned April 6 and has her office at San Quentin. Women are working their way into all places in California except that at the polls.

The Young Women's Christian Association of San Francisco has opened a lunch room where working girls can bring their lunches and eat them or with or without tea or coffee or bread and butter, which last are charged for at 1 cent each. Tea, coffee or bread and butter tickets are sold at the factories, five for 5 cents.

Misses Evelyn and Jarrett Keyser, practical printers, have decided to go into the job printing business at Paso Robles and perhaps to start a paper there. The young ladies learned to set type in Hanford and those who know them prophesy success for them.

Young Shoppers.

Too many people assume the cares and duties of housekeeing and home-making without the knowledge gained by experience in handling money.

The safest and least humiliating place to acquire this ease is under the home-roof where a dear, sympathetic mother can guide and advise against errors. Children may be trained very early to understand and appreciate the value of money, and I know of no better way than to allow them to purchase some simple articles for the house.

All children should have a little money of their own to accustom them to personal expense. No child realizes the unavoidable expense he is to his parents unless he handles and, if possible, earns some of the money that is used in keeping him comfortable and happy. Such knowledge, if properly brought to a child's notice, will only serve to make him more considerate of his parents and less likely to make them needless trouble.

This habit of allowing young folks "pin money" is a familiar one in many families, but few, I think, take the pains to instruct them in the important art of judicious buying. Children enjoy a little importantance very much, and will exercise great care if sent on an errand in which they may use their own judgment. When the result is unsatisfactory, gently point out the fault; if all is well, be equally sure to give due meed of praise, for much is due the child who succeeds while learning something new.

One girl can never forget how hard was her path when, on going at seventeen to live with an invalid aunt, she, for the first time in her life, had all the shopping to do. Totally without experience in this kind of work, for work it certainly was, she was often completely at the mercy of the storekeeper and, on reaching home, extremely liable to her aunt's displeasure.

Let me relate one instance. She was sent down town one day to buy gingham to make six short dresses for the year-old baby. For two, she bought material of a small blue check, for two more of a small brown check, and for the other two of a pink and white that was very pretty to the eye. No one had ever told her that pink rarely washed well, but she never touched one of those pink dresses in all the long winter that followed without thinking as she looked at the faded, slimpsy garment:

"Why couldn't some one have cautioned me against such a mistake?"

One wise mother said to her grocer, and to the head of the dry-goods house where she usually dealt: "I shall occasionally send my little daughter to make small purchases, allowing her to use her own judgment. If I am in immediate need of anything for which I send her, she will bring you a note. Otherwise do not allow her to take time from your more important customers."

The dealers thanked her warmly, for there are many seasons when their time is altogether too valuable to permit of their turning the business into a training-school for young shoppers. So in this way the child had a chance to learn without defrauding others.

She was sometimes sent to "buy some suitable buttons for this gingham apron, dear," or some like instance, and although only ten years old, she showed considerable good taste and judgment.

She would occasionally be sent to the grocery store to order vegetables for dinner, and was teasing hard to be taught all about meat, so she "could order papa's Sunday roast."

Not a precocious child, my reader. Only one whom a very conscientious mother had been training in this direction for several years.—Maud S. Peaslee in Rural Press.

Phoebe Couzins Belligerent.

A Chicago dispatch of April 13 says: The war between the executive committee of the lady managers of the world's fair and Secretary Couzins was brought to a climax to-day by the positive refusal of Miss Couzins to recognize the authority of the subcommittee, headed by Mrs Potter Palmer. Miss Couzins said she would neither retire nor appear before the committee; that she was legally a member of the board of lady managers and was not amenable to discipline from the executive committee.

She also declared that if this committee undertook to depose her she should appeal to the courts. A fear was quite generally expressed this evening that the feud may entirely disrupt the board of lady managers, as Mrs. Palmer, it is pointed out, is a woman of great ability and determination of character, and Miss Couzins has a legal education and a remarkable record as a plucky and successful fighter.

"Needles and Pins."

When Netta of Napoli came to this shore,
She knew but two words—"needles, pins" and no more.
Until a street Arab, uncultured young wag,
Did something I cannot consider as right,
And taught her to add to the "needles and pins,"
"When a man's married, his trouble begins."

But Netta of Napoli noted erelong,
By looking at ladies who'd list to her song,
That this was a sentence exceedingly wrong,
And being a poetess after her way,
Bethought her of something more fitting to say;
So that now her refrain is still "Needles and pins,
When a man's married, a treasure he wins,"
Which is why the good housewives, at least in our block,
When Netta appears, all select from her stock.
—Mrs. Valentine Adams, in Harper's Young People.

LEGENDS OF THE WREN.

Its Trick on an Eagle Wins It Popularity Among the Irish.

In Ireland the wren is called the king of birds. One old legend among the Irish, that dates as far back as the days of the Druids, is thus stated by the Boston *Globe*:

Once upon a time the eagle, always proud of his strength and valor, called all the birds together for a trial of flight, with this understanding, that he who soared the highest would forever command the distinctive title of "king of birds."

The eagle, by common consent, had been invested with the honor from time immemorial and he had no idea of giving it up; but the better to impress his superiority on all inferior birds he called together the whole feathered tribe for this flying tournament.

At the appointed time the birds came. There were thrushes, linnets, magpies, crows, blackbirds, bluebirds, hawks, doves, robins, sparrows, nightingales, larks, game birds from the forest, seabirds from the coast and last of all, but as noisy as any of them, came the turkeys, geese, ducks and hens from the barnyards.

The eagle surveyed them all with his piercing eyes. At some of them he cast a contemptuous glance, but when he saw the skylark he looked a little uneasy. This was the only bird he really feared, for the skylark can fly very high. But his fears did not last long, for just then he saw something to make him laugh. It was the little wren hopping along saucily with his jaunty little tail perked up with the utmost assurance. One would think he surely expected to win the prize.

The eagle began to poke fun at him, and all the other birds joined in, so that the poor little wren was glad to escape out of sight.

When the signal was given for the birds to start he was nowhere to be seen, and if any one thought of him at all it was probably to conclude that he had realized the folly of his trying to compete with those so much stronger than himself, and had wisely gone home to his nest in the hedge.

At a given signal away flew the birds. Up, up, up! The wild goose did very well, so did the hawk, and the skylark kept close under the eagle's big wings; but one by one they had to give up, all but the proud old eagle. He kept on soaring until he reached a point from which he could not raise himself another inch.

Then he looked down proudly at all the representatives of the feathered tribe below him, and they looked up admiringly at him, when suddenly up above him flew a little dark speck. It was a bird, and the horrified eagle looked up to see the despised little wren hovering above him.

All the other birds saw him too, and they set up a great shout. Then down flew the crestfallen eagle.

As the birds touched the ground they looked for the wren, and they saw him hop off the eagle's back. He had been nestling among the feathers, and the big eagle did not feel his weight.

So it was that when the eagle and the other birds had used up all their strength he was able to reach a point higher than all of them.

According to the letter of the law the wren was adjudged "king of birds," but, as one may suppose, the eagle was very angry. He set to work and cursed the wren and laid a spell on him so that he should never again be able to fly over anything, and to this day an Irish wren cannot even fly over a hedge; he must find an opening in it somewhere before he can pass from one field or garden to another.

The druids treated the wren with great distinction, but when christianity was introduced into the country the first Christian missionaries, not above superstition themselves, considered their admiration a great offense, and since then the poor little king has sometimes had a hard time of it.

Another incident to bring the wren into ill-repute with the Irish is the story that once when the Danes had invaded Ireland a party of them while asleep were about to be surrounded by the natives when several wrens awoke them by pecking on their drums. The same story is told of wrens awaking a detachment of protestants during one of the religious wars of Ireland.

Either affair would be enough to make the Irish hate the poor little wren, and they set apart St. Stephen's Day—that is the day following Christmas—on which to persecute him.

On that day the idle men and boys go a wren hunting. They take sticks or clubs and run like mad from hedge to hedge until they succeed in killing one. Then they form a procession and carry about the poor little body, hung by one leg in the center of two hoops crossing each other at right angles, the whole arrangement decorated with bits of colored ribbon. They march from door to door, and in front of each the funny one of the party, called the "drolleen," sings:

The wren, the wren,
The king of all birds,
St. Stephen's Day
He was caught in the firs;
And although he is little,
His family's great,
So arise, good lady,
And give us a treat.

They usually receive a hearty welcome, and the treat—rhyming with great—besides a few pence dropped into an old stocking which the drolleen holds out as he sings. These receipts are spent in a jollification for the evening, and the funnier the drolleen is and the more apt he is at repartee the heavier the stocking will be at the close of the day.

Serving a Subpœna.

While a constable at Bayville, N. Y., was trying to serve a subpœna the other day the unwilling witness in endeavoring to keep away from the man of the law jumped through a window, landing in a tub of water. The constable landed on top of him, and while both were "wallowing in their bath" the constable served his subpœna.