

Lebanon Express.

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Editor - and - Proprietor

HEREDITARY POLITICIANS.

The election of young Crisp to succeed his father in congress is the latest proof of a latent American fondness for some of the hereditary usages of our ancestors—though, if we go back far enough we find that the kings and lords were elective, not hereditary. Generally, however, in this country, selection of the son to succeed the father in high office has been due to the son's own worth, or to the fair promise of talents equal to those of his sire. Thus the Adamsons of New England, and the Salisburys and Bayards of Delaware, have kept front places from one generation to another; and in some instance almost whole families, for more than one generation, have been men worthy of high places and honor—such as the Winthrops, the Danas, the Lees, the Fields, and the Washburns. Far more frequently, however, an illustrious sire begets a comparatively degenerate son. The fires of true genius do not follow any lines of hereditary. Robert Lincoln and Fred Grant would never have been heard of outside of their own counties except for their fathers' reputation. Young Garfield has worked his way into the Ohio state senate and young Crisp is to be sent to congress, largely, it is presumed, because of their fathers' prominence—though neither of them were great men. Indeed, the young Georgian may outshine his father, without rising to the plane of great statesmanship.

JUSTICES' FEES.

The county judge has an interesting article in Monday's Democrat, giving the public an insight into the needless and enormous expenses that the justice courts of the county entail upon defenceless taxpayers. The fault is with the law rather than with the officers. Thousands of dollars is squandered in frivolous prosecutions, under the sanction of the law. A radical change should be made by the legislature in this matter. If necessary, jurisdiction of justices in criminal matters might be taken away, and the county judge be empowered and directed to hear all such cases. Some aspiring legislator should introduce such a measure and his return to the legislature would be assured. The fee system results in great costs to the taxpayers and much annoyance to the public from frivolous law suits.

A STRANGE INSECT.

Some of the winter oats in this section is infested with myriads of curious little creatures. They are hardly visible to the naked eye, but loom up with fearful proportions under a magnifying glass. They are yellow, with long horns and jointed body. Many of them will appropriate a sprout of oats and soon eat its life away leaving a dark, withered blade. They seem to thrive well in both rain and cold and are an undesirable addition to our pests.

The Chicago Civic Federation will make a fight on a portion of the button fad. The association thinks such mottos as "If You Love Me, Grin," and "I Will Meet You at Eight O'clock," are evil and have a bad influence on the youth of the city. The federation is quite right, and aside from having an evil influence upon the young, the button fad is decidedly silly.—Mail.

Lake county clims the distinction of being the only county in Oregon that did not cast a vote for the prohibition electors at the recent election. There is hardly glory enough achieved by it to make any great amount of noise over and we don't presume but the people over the way are keeping the matter as quiet as possible.

A gentleman who has had much to do with steamships and who does not favor a boat railway at the Dalles, but insists that a canal should be cut around the rapids, suggests a plan by which this canal might be cheaply built. He favors the passage of a law for the employing of convict labor to build the canal. Not only would he have the convicts in the penitentiary employed on this work, but all persons sentenced to the county or city jails. When a bobo or thief is sentenced to 30 or 60 days or more imprisonment, send him off at once to work on the canal, and keep him at work till his term expires. In this manner, not only would the canal be built, but a large class of persons would be kept out of mischief, and the result would be that there would not be so many loafers and bummers hunting for quarters in the jails, to be fed at the expense of the taxpayers. The scheme does not appear impracticable.—Oregonian.

The Oregonian says that "the president improves with practice, as a writer of state papers." The president has improved of late in the good opinion of the Oregonian, which probably accounts for the improvement of his state papers. Cleveland's messages have always been good, but radically wrong on the financial question, on which he has succeeded in disrupting the party which honored and trusted him, and no doubt it is this fact that has caused him to rise in the estimation of such organs and the republican party, and he stands today higher with them than those who placed him in the position he occupies.—Dispatch.

Senator Mitchell is between the devil and the deep sea. The gold republicans are trying to smoke him out on the money question and their demand of him the unconditional endorsement of the St. Louis platform. To do so would be the loss of every free silver vote in the legislature. He holds at best only a small portion of the gold republican vote in the legislature, and his only hope is the populist vote and a bolt from the caucus. He will not dare to submit his chances to a caucus. There is no danger of his getting a single democratic vote.—Ex.

The following from Washington is significant: When asked to explain the motive of his motion in the senate to take up the Dingley tariff bill, Senator Allen replied: "I had no motive, except, as we used to say in the army, 'to feel the enemy.' I want to satisfy myself and the country as to the attitude of the republicans towards this measure, which they have professed to be so anxious to have become a law, and I think I have at least succeeded in demonstrating that they have no intention of trying to do anything."

A man was brought before a magistrate in Portland this week, and adjudged guilty of a crime, for an alleged misrepresentation of four pounds of coffee. But creditors of the defunct Northwest Loan and Trust Company were buncoed out of something like \$500,000, and there never was, is not, nor never will be, any hint of their prosecution. But then, my lords and gentlemen, the cases are quite different.—Welcome.

The United States can't afford to let the Cuban war continue indefinitely. Our commercial interest have been badly damaged and our sense of justice has been outraged by this war. The time for determined action has come and it is to be hoped that the influence of our government will be brought to bear upon Spain in order that peace may soon come to this wretched island.

The historical treachery of the Spaniard has been repeated in the murder of Maceo. The United States should take immediate steps toward bringing this murder of innocent people to a speedy end.

There's no clay, flour, starch or other worthless filling in Hoe Cake and no free alkali to burn the hands.

BANANAS IN A BLIZZARD.

Combination Which Excited the Ribilities of Some Street Railway Men.

Two Italians were trudging down the street-car tracks under the South side elevated road in Chicago during the blizzard the other day. Great clouds of snow were swept by them by the wind, so that half the time they were invisible or only dimly outlined two blocks away. The tracks were covered faster than the sweepers could clear them and the cars had a time of it in getting along. Each Italian had a huge basket of bananas on his head, protected from the unfriendly elements by a piece of oilcloth, and trudged along in the teeth of the blast as serenely as if he were under the skies of Italy, and the howling northwester was a summer zephyr from summer seas.

An employe of the street car company, a strapping big fellow with seven-league boots on, faced about for a moment to let his back stand the brunt of the storm for awhile, and in doing so caught sight of the two banana merchants. Immediately his half-frozen features relaxed into a broad grin, and, turning to the other men who were at work with him, he shouted: "Say, boys! look at them Eytalians with their bananas. I guess we ain't got no kick comin'."

All the men joined in the laugh, and after a few moments returned to their work much relieved by this little diversion.

Would Be More Land Than Water.

If old ocean's waters were lowered three miles more than half its great depth would be taken away. All the great seas, such as the Mediterranean, the Caribbean, and those of the China coast, would vanish or be reduced to small basins inclosed within a rim separating them from the shrunken field of waters. The lands, after a subsidence of two miles, would rather exceed the ocean in area with a subsidence of three they would occupy more than two-thirds of the earth's surface. The seas which would remain would form not a connected ocean of considerable size, but separate basins, the largest gathered around the south pole.

A Spring That Runs Up Hill.

One of the few instances of a stream running up hill can be found in White county, Ga., says the Cincinnati Enquirer. Near the top of a mountain is a spring, evidently a siphon, and the water rushes from it with sufficient force to carry it up the side of a very steep hill for nearly half a mile. Reaching the crest, the water flows on to the east, and eventually finds its way into the Atlantic ocean. Of course, it is of the same nature as a geyser, but the spectacle of a stream of water flowing up a steep incline can probably be found nowhere else in the country, and appears even more remarkable than the geysers of the Yellowstone.

In Paris the Best Dogs Actually Carry Umbrellas.

No matter what the dress may be, the indispensable companion of the woman who walks in her little dog. Short-haired terrier or long-haired toy, it is of no moment, provided that it is very tiny.

At the moment it is, perhaps, the terrier which is the most popular, as he furnishes a further excuse for the exhibition of fur in that his smooth coat does not appear to his kind hearted mistress a sufficient protection from the cold of this season of the year.

So the little dog has his tailor as well as his owner, and Ledouble, of the Palais Royal, may be called the Worth of the kennel. With garments of velvet, trimmed with fur, or of cloth strap-stitched and embroidered, the clothing of the little creature harmonizes with that of his possessor.

Societables provide mackintoshes for their pets on rainy days, and have them made with a full hood, which covers their ears. Others there are who choose tartan, having joints turned back at the shoulders and fastened with a strap around the body. For those believed to be particularly chilly, the coats are provided with collars of quite Medicinal style, and are lined throughout with Astrakhan, nutria, or even beaver, as these select furs are not too cumbersome for the little animals.

There are some which actually have umbrellas of dark blue silk, which they have been taught to carry quite straight and steadily between their teeth in the event of a sudden shower.

They are also provided with handkerchiefs in cases of accidents, a tiny pocket in which to carry these being placed on one side of the coat.

These handkerchiefs, adds the Paris correspondent of the London Daily Graphic, are found useful when madame stops a few minutes at the confectioner's, and can wipe her pet's nose and paws after his share in the delicacies she buys.

—A photograph twenty-six and one-fourth feet long and three and five-sixths feet wide, giving a view of the recent annual show of the Royal Agricultural society at Sydney, has been produced by the government printing office of New South Wales. It was taken on eight plates, fifteen by twelve inches in size, and enlarged on bromide paper. The picture is good, and the photograph is claimed to be the largest ever produced, succeeding a view of Sydney, twenty-four feet long, which the same office exhibited at Chicago, as the largest.

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