

The Daily Reporter.

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McMinnville, Or. Sept. 30, 1886

THE CRANKS DELIGHT.

Managers of the Brooklyn bridge are exercised over the mania of cranks for jumping from the high structure, and having lined the bridge with watchmen and policemen in plain dress. At every step is a lynx-eyed person ready to snatch any jumper who makes an effort to leap from the platform. They are so alert that when the sanest passenger turns his head to spit or to glance at the wonderful scene of endless ferry boats, he is grasped by the collar and incontinently carried off to the nearest station house to present evidence that he does not mean to jump. But why all this care? Why not let them jump? As long as there is any novelty in the nonsense, cranks will jump in spite of all precautions, and as soon as the novelty wears off they will stop jumping. The more they are allowed to jump now, the sooner the mania will subside. It is likely that a number will be killed in the process, but even this is not important. Society ought not to complain and ought not to interfere if cranks kill only themselves. If they are not allowed to risk their own lives in this way they will be likely to do something equally foolish which will involve the lives of other persons. On the whole, it is a very easy and cheap way to get rid of this particular kind of cranks. Sooner or later, if they live, they become charges of the public or in the lunatic or idiot asylums. The bridge company should rather build a convenient platform and invite the cranks to jump from it without cost. It might even do to have regular hours for the jumpers. Under such a policy they would soon weary of the business.

YELLOWSTONE PARK DISTURBANCE.

The great excelsior geyser in the Yellowstone national park, known by a

wicked name, which ever since its discovery, in 1865, has been a still geyser, made a grand display simultaneous with the great earthquake at Charleston, Sept. 2d. The eruption was so great that huge rocks were thrown out of the crater, heated to a red heat, and they were thrown out as often as they fell back, until they dissolved and disappeared in the great displacement that took down three acres of his Satanic majesty's supposed pre-emption. The excelsior cavern, which so many visitors have looked into with fear and trembling, is now aglow with fervent heat, and its rocky sides a red abyss of glowing rocks. The heated steam from this celebrated wonder is even now so great that sight seers are driven away from the cauldron on all sides for hundreds of feet, except the windward. Where the three acres were a few weeks ago on which hundreds of people in carriages and stages congregated to look down this then murmuring crater, there is but an immense cave that would have swamped the whole population of a city, had they been standing there as lookers on at the time of the great eruption.

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