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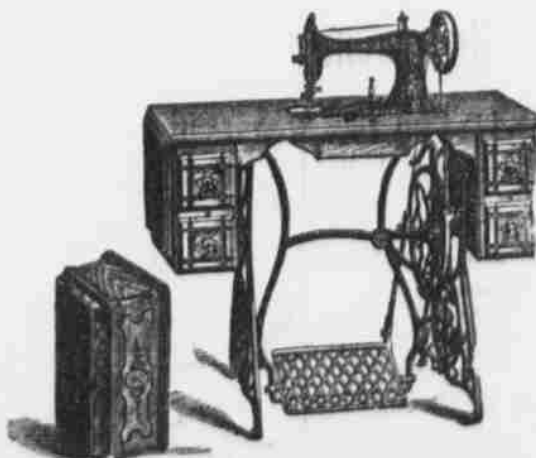
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THE CAPITAL JOURNAL.

HOFER BROTHERS, Editors. PUBLISHED DAILY, EXCEPT SUNDAY, BY THE Capital Journal Publishing Company, (Incorporated.) Office, Commercial Street, in P. O. Building Entered at the postoffice at Salem, Or., as second-class matter.

OUR SATURDAY NIGHT.

Three days of clear white sunshine have put all in a spring motion. Our bodies feel that languidity and desire to desert from all exertion. Our spirits would soar upwards into ethereal fields and recline on beds of roses. Fancy and memory play hide and seek in the best disciplined minds. The lawyer looks over his yellow-stained volumes into green fields afar. The banker fain would turn from counting cash to chasing butterflies. Car-drivers have souls and would willingly be converted into flower-gathering urchins once more on holiday. The pale clerks at their posts of duty, waiting on customers or clicking the type-writer, sigh for a day among the turfs and swelling buds of meadow and forest. No sound hath charm for weary spirits equal to the music of the rippling brook. The soul is soothed more by the various sweet and homely voices of nature than all the splendors and glories of art.

The balm of spring, the hopeful skies of Easter, the bright sunshine, singing birds and springing flowers arouse us to newer, nobler, efforts. Though the body may feel like indulging indolence, the soul and spirit array themselves in new dress. They shake the dust of winter and prepare for higher flights. "Yes spring's come again," says the pioneer whose head is white as the snowy peak of Mt. Hood. "I've seen forty of 'em in this valley. No two just alike. But they suit me. Hain't got no fault to find. I reckon I'll be allowed to come to town awhile yet if I am getting old. Spring weather don't effect me as it used to. It's pretty much all the same to me whether it's winter or spring in this climate. The winters dead gently with us old folks here in Oregon. It is an old-folks country. We don't put up chipper like for all the new improvements a going in the country now. We used to put up for everything when there wasn't anything here but country." So he takes it easy, smokes his pipe, drinks his toddy, stuns himself with a friend, or talks politics on a corner. And who shall say nay? Not we. The springtime is a season of youth and rejoicing. But no season is a time to forget those entering the close of the human year. They are entitled to our best thoughts, our purest affection, our undying respect, confidence and devotion. They gave us their best love when we were only a burden to them. They made pleasant the springtime of our lives. Their whole hope being centered in us before they knew that we would even be able to walk alone. Let us strew the path that leads down toward the dark valley with the flowers of love. Who can do too much. "I can never trample under foot my mother's belief in God." "She brought me up in her holy faith. She died in it, and if there is a hereafter, every good deed I do tells me that is to my credit in the world to come and it will please my mother if she can know of it. My reason repudiates superstition but my heart clings to my mother's teachings in childhood." Who would knowingly wound the feelings of an old father or mother? Be you or be you not a demon, better strike a knife into your own heart, than mar with pain or anguish the closing days of life to those that love you. Perhaps they might have done better by you. They might have filled the spring time of your life with more of the sunshine of better advantages. Perhaps they could have given you a better education, a finer character. Be that as it may, we must conclude that they did the best with the powers given them. They employed their God-given powers as best they knew to do and gratitude is their due, and your duty. The spring season awakens the fountains of love in human hearts. Let its perfume not all go out as incense to selfishness. Let a little be spared to those who have not gold to buy our love with.

THE WOODBURN INDEPENDENT AND THE COUNTY OFFICIALS. The charges of a weekly paper that certain county officials have been guilty of taking illegal fees has again fallen through. For over a year a weekly paper has been charging this official crime against our republican county officials severally and collectively. At the October term of grand jury the editor went before that body with his charges and alleged facts, which he had been industriously publishing broad-cast in his paper, and circulating personally and by mouth of political opponents of these officials. The grand jury found the accusations inefficient and ignored the

charges, the editor and the paper.

At the term of grand jury just closed the accused county officials themselves asked a thorough investigation of the charges, of their books and methods of charging and collecting fees. The grand jury, composed of men whose high character has not been questioned except by this editor, again exonerated the gentlemen and their report we published. The paper is not content assailing the officials continually after showing itself utterly unable to prove its case against them, but seeks to convey the false idea that the jury was packed and that this JOURNAL is covering up alleged illegal official practices. We do not propose to enter any defence but as the constant barking of a cur will at length make anyone believe there is game in the tree, so we feel compelled to notice him here.

We believe more in deeds than in professions and wind-work without results. The JOURNAL would not shield, protect or defend any county or state official if facts could be had sustaining publicly made charges. It offered to join in any sincere and well-directed effort to convict any such officials before the public, at least if any facts could be furnished. But none were forthcoming.

The fact is, if the young man could prove a single item of malfeasance of \$1 or \$5, or even 50 cents against Capt. Babcock, sheriff Croisan or their deputies, there is plenty of law to convict them of the crime. The young man has lived in this county all his life and so have the gentlemen he makes his charges against. Having failed twice to make a case where it is easiest made, before the grand jury, and apparently without a single fact to support his charges, it is time for him to do something or shut up. It is poor policy in journalism or politics to publish mountains of insinuations and bring forth not even a mouse. We propose not going into such enterprises unless reasonably sure of success. It is better not to undertake such business, than go in and fail. It destroys all the influence for good of a newspaper or public man to indulge such fruitless expeditions. Better not carry your war into Africa than to come back without a single Carthaginian scalp. The young man at Woodburn is not more honest and incorruptible than other citizens may be if they had good bringing-up. His paper is independent in so far as it makes war on republicans only. Its independence consists solely in making capital for democracy. He allows himself to be made a stool-pigeon for men whose only aim in life is to down a republican by means fair or foul. He will learn in time that such is not true independence. Better be independent enough to avow that you have political convictions, are man enough to stand by them, and then be independent enough to not allow your partisan prejudices to lead you into wronging any man, public or private citizen tho' he may be.

This alleged highly moral independent journal at Woodburn has on several occasions been strangely silent when the people's interests were involved. It was too busy airing its trumped up charges to devote any space to the Salem county bridge frauds, or to help people's measures before the legislature. It can only peep along certain lines of policy supposed to be the pet ideas of a few demagogues, and is indifferent to all else that the people are interested in. It represents the demagogic politicians for revenue much better than the interests of the farmer and we have no ambition to rival its affections or become jealous of its conquests. We apologize for devoting so much space to it but self-defence against misrepresentations at times is necessary.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION OF EUROPE. The mousehole who is now in possession of more square miles on the continent of the so-called old world, and who rules over more millions of civilized and uncivilized people than any other crowned head of Europe is at present the most embarrassed person in his own empire as well as in the realms of other rulers. The reader will see at a glance that we have in mind the emperor or the czar of Russia.

As an absolute ruler and a military despot he would soar high if his wings were not clipped by his own subjects, who would rather fight against him than for him. The disturbed attitude of the social condition of the Russian empire is the safeguard of peace in Europe. Rejecting the idea of giving his people a constitution with a representative government, the czar has forfeited the love and confidence of his people, and he has worked himself into such a condition that he is afraid of his own shadow and feels more safe in any other country than his own. A war with Turkey or with Austria might improve the critical condition at home, but in spite of an army of two million soldiers, he cannot commence a war in any direction. He made a war-like demonstration against Austria two years ago, but when he began massing his divisions on the line of Galicia and Poland, Bismarck, the

present ex-chancellor of Germany.

published a little document, which showed neither more nor less than that the emperors of Germany and Austria had formed an alliance with the king of Italy nine years before to prevent just such a warlike operation as the czar was about to inaugurate. The cohorts were withdrawn and the czar became more unpopular than ever before. By the statesmanship of the iron chancellor the Franco-Russian alliance became a still-born child; and the peace of Europe was not disturbed, although the conditions which were brought on the conflict are not removed.

Out of the mouths of about 20,000 cannons the peace of Europe stares at the nations. The idea that a bloody war is inevitable in Europe has formed itself into the one great expectation of all nations. It lies like a cold chill on the classes who have to furnish the money and the blood which is to be shed for the glory of a system which can be prolonged only by real or prospective war. Premier Bismarck prevented war and bloodshed by foreseeing the coming events, and since the peace which he dictated to the French nation at their own capital, the destiny of Europe has rested exclusively in his hands. This was the situation when William the second took possession of the throne, which had been occupied by his beloved father for so short a time. This young ruler could not endure the fatherly hand of Count Bismarck. He felt himself strong enough to govern the empire without its creator. The mighty old chancellor was kindly informed that his resignation was expected at the imperial court, that he might retire to his estate in Pomerania. He resigned and retired and like all old politicians who never resign willingly and never die cheerfully, he now acts as critic over the rulings of his successor and over the edicts of the young emperor. This is considered a gross violation of diplomatic discipline, and the man who drove Graf Arnim from home and fatherland for writing a letter to a bishop of the Roman church is now writing letters to his pet newspapers criticising the acts of the young emperor, who in every respect is an apt pupil of the old chancellor, and who refuses to be a mere automaton in the hands of the self-willed old man. During the last two months the controversy between the different newspapers became so provoking to the emperor that he sent for the court attorney to receive legal advice in case he should be compelled to prosecute the old chancellor for breach of diplomatic discipline.

The publication of facts which for years were sacred court secrets, and which no other person but old Bismarck could know, are proof enough that the old man is tattling to revenge himself on those who intruded against him to speed his downfall. Bismarck is still popular, but the young emperor is more popular than the retired chancellor. The good citizens feel rather gloomy over the rupture in high places, and the socialists and anarchists are rejoicing over a conflict which broke out in a direction where it was least expected. Catholic priests and bishops are highly elated over the downfall of the originator of the May laws, which cost many of them a lucrative income. The true friends of the old chancellor suffer under a deep perplexity because the greatest statesman of Europe lacks the great attribute which is necessary to win for him a sacred immortality. His patriotism is now doubted. There are as great and as wise statesmen as George Washington, but our American hero outranks them all.

Iowan's View of Salem. The following is gleaned from a letter written by Mr. J. L. Ashby, of North Salem, to the Sun, of Red Oak, Iowa, where he formerly lived: "I like this country first-rate, and find the people friendly. There are a great many Iowa people here; most of the new comers are from Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska. Salem is the capital of Oregon, as well as the county seat of Marion county, which is one of the most productive counties in the state. Salem has about 12,000 population, having just about doubled in population in the past 10 years. It has no big boom, but is growing steadily and healthily. It is on the Willamette river, and waterpower furnished by the river is used by numerous factories, including a large woolen mill, extensive planing mills, two flouring mills, several foundries and machine shops, and an ice factory. The Willamette university, a Methodist college, is located here. Besides the capitol, Salem has the state asylums for the insane, deaf and dumb, blind and soldiers' orphans, the state penitentiary, and a U. S. training school for Indian children. The surrounding country is agricultural. The soil is rich and productive and good for almost all small grains. Winter wheat is grown largely. The country is very pretty. There are a good many orchards and the fruit here is the finest I ever tasted. I like the climate here much better than Iowa, and feel much better.

TELEGRAPHIC DISPATCHES.

Associated Press Report and Digests of all Important News of To-Day.

MISCELLANY.

RAILROAD CASE. LOS ANGELES, Cal. March 7.—La the U. S. court yesterday morning a decision was rendered in the case of the United States against the Southern Pacific railway company, the court giving judgment for the railroad. The case involves a large area of lands claimed by the government to have been illegally patented to the railroad company by reason of being embraced in the limits of a Mexican grant. The government also claimed that the consolidation of the Southern Pacific with other railroad companies was illegal, and that the right to earn the grant by constructing the road could not pass by assignment to the consolidated company. Counsel for the government gave notice of appeal to the supreme court of the United States.

DOWN WENT COAL. SAN FRANCISCO, March 7.—While the ship L. J. Morse was discharging her cargo of coal into a barge, the barge capsized and 100 tons of coal valued at \$18 a ton were lost in the bay.

WORK ON PANAMA CANAL. NEW YORK, March 7.—The Pacific Mail Line steamship Newport, which arrived here yesterday from Colon, brings information that work has been resumed on the Panama canal.

CRUISERS ACCEPTED. WASHINGTON, March 7.—The cruisers Philadelphia and San Francisco, have been formally accepted by the secretary of the navy.

SHOT HIMSELF. KEOKUK, Iowa, March 7.—Dan Porter, sentenced to be hung for murder at Quincy, Ill., March 20, and who escaped from jail Sunday, shot himself yesterday to evade capture.

NOT J. WILKES BOOTH. SEATTLE, March 7.—J. M. Carson stated that he could not believe it that Rev. J. G. Armstrong, who recently died in Atlanta, Ga., and who was reported to be J. Wilkes Booth, was really that noted assassin. Mr. Armstrong was noted acquainted with Armstrong during 1861-2 and 1863, when he was the minister of the United Presbyterian church at Sidney, Ohio. In the latter part of 1863 Armstrong went to St. Louis and took charge of a church there. His inclination for drink was, however, so strong that he was called upon to resign, and he then went south. During the last few years he has been engaged in lecturing through the Southern states and nearly everyone knew him. Mr. Carson saw him during his visit last year to his old home in Sidney, and talked with him.

The scar on his leg which is referred to in the dispatches, is caused, he says, from a white swelling, from which he has been lame since his boyhood.

LOST BY GAMBLING. SEATTLE, Mar. 7.—Edwin Tonkin, city agent of the Northern Pacific railroad in this city, was arrested last evening for embezzlement. He is said to be \$5000 short in his accounts. The money was lost in gambling. Tonkin has hitherto borne an excellent reputation, and stood well with the company. It is stated that the Northern Pacific will attempt to force the gambling houses to return the money won from Tonkin.

OTAY WATCH COMPANY. SAN JOSE, Mar. 7.—Superintendent Wheeler says that it is now a settled fact that the Otay Watch factory will remove here from San Diego, the necessary amount of stock having been taken. When the location has been decided upon the work of removal will be commenced at once and it will be but a short time before San Jose made watches will be seen in the leading shops of the country.

THE UMATILLA LAKES. WASHINGTON, Mar. 7.—The commissioners of the general land office yesterday issued instructions to the register and receiver at the land office at La Grande, Oregon, in regard to the sale of a portion of the Umatilla Indian reservation. The commissioners says the law directs these lands to be offered for sale to the highest bidder at no less than the appraised value, and in no case at less than \$1.25 per acre. The lands are classified as timbered and un-timbered, and the amount allowed to each purchaser is limited to 100 acres of un-timbered land. No person will be permitted to purchase timbered lands unless he is also the purchaser of un-timbered lands. The instructions state that the terms of payment for un-timbered lands are one-third of the purchase price cash and two-thirds in two years from the date of the sale with interest at the rate of five per cent. Land offices are instructed to call attention