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HOFER BROTHERS, - - - Editors.

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CASE FOR A HUMANE SOCIETY.

The practice of wife-whipping is becoming a little too prevalent of late in this locality. We have, on several occasions, heard rumors of offenses of this character, but until now have been unable to certainly fix the fact upon those said to be guilty of the crime. In the present instance, however, there is no doubt. On Monday afternoon last persons living at the north end of Front street were startled by the loud screams of a woman, and an investigation of the cause disclosed the fact that a man named Jacob Higley, who, with his wife and two children, occupies rooms adjoining and in the rear of Marshfield house, had beaten his wife into an insensible condition. Neighbors say that he was seen to strike her at least three times with his clenched fist, when she fell to the floor and remained unconscious for a quarter of an hour. The family recently came from Portland, and the woman is said to be hard-working and industrious, while the man does nothing toward the support of himself or family.—Marshfield Sun.

THE STATE HORTICULTURAL MEETING AT SALEM.

Fruit growers should remember this meeting and not fail to attend. The Marion County Fruit Growers' association should make an effort to secure a large attendance. The meeting will be held in the senate chamber, state house, Salem, on Tuesday, April 14th, 1891. The following papers are announced: The Lessons of 1890.—R. D. Allen, Silverton. The Strawberry and its Culture.—E. Hofer, Salem. Pruning and Training the Peach.—M. Scheydecker, Fulton. Notes from Newberg.—C. E. Hoskins, Newberg. What I know about Drainage.—J. F. Beaty, Chemawa. What Shall the Harvest be from a Horticultural Standpoint.—Rev. A. Rogers, Forest Grove.

Other papers are promised says Secretary Lake, but not having titles we are obliged to make an apparently short program. It is hoped that a good attendance may be had at this meeting as business of considerable importance is to come up before the society for discussion; one important matter will be the adoption of a scheme for the exhibits and premiums thereon and the standing committees will be announced at this meeting.

Membership in the state society costs only one dollar a year and all the reports are secured. Salem should make an effort to secure a large membership at this meeting.

IMPROVEMENT OF COUNTY ROADS.

Mr. Wm. M. Hays spoke on this topic at a N. Y. Institute: This subject involves several questions. Do we need better roads? What is the best plan? And have we the needful income to warrant the expense? The present system is a failure. It does not meet the wants of the times. The system does not bring out the needful skill. The commutation money is not often well laid out. A vast amount of money is now raised, or supposed to be expended. Do we get adequate returns for this sum? We do not.

The ways of transit have been changed, and the business centers have changed. We need a uniform system of doing this work, to have it done for the general good and in a skillful and competent way. The money raised should be expended in a way to get the best possible results. The state provided for a general improvement of roads many years ago by encouraging the making of turnpikes. The state assumed an interest in these roads. The Roman empire made roads 4,000 miles in length, leading from the Forum in Rome to the utmost bounds of the of the vast empire. Some of these roads are in use to this day.

The time has come when better roads are required. Our country roads are of interest to everybody. Our lives are at stake, and all the business affairs of the people without regard to name or character. The interests of the people can best be served by a uniform and general tax imposed upon all alike, and in the benefits of which all share. During a considerable part of the year our roads are little else but sloughs and almost impassable. This does not pay. Sixty-five pounds of power will move a good load upon a good road, while 200 pounds is required upon a bad road.

The state has fastened all other enterprises liberally, and why not now the roads? We should do unto others as they have done unto us. We have helped everything, and now let everything help us. The bill now before the legislature is not complete. It does not provide for

repairs, and is not wisely framed. It lacks in practical application and results. We want better roads at less cost. To do this, the present system should be abolished and a system inaugurated which will be under the control of a county superintendent advisory with the supervisors. A tax should be levied all over the state to furnish some of the money to enable the said superintendents and supervisors to carry on the work under the direction of the state engineers. This is a better plan, involves less cost, and avoids the machinery of a state commission. We should have state aid and in this way.

SUGGESTED COMMENT.

Was there ever such growing weather? Never.

The Astoria Evening Columbian ceases publication.

The Alliance school house plan rolls up an immense vote.

The farmer's movement will not tot any small organs.

There is a bright prospect for the Oregon State Grange, which meets May 26, 1891.

Salem sent a crowd of jolly people and big eaters to the Astoria encampment of G. A. R.

JOURNAL friends will do well to look up our advertisers when desiring to make purchases.

Unless the Alliance can do something to force the question of open rivers to the front, it will not be worth much to Oregon.

Bill Nye proposes to have a bust of Sockless Jerry's foot made for the Chicago exposition.

If the Farmer's movement has to carry a fraction of the 'isms of the alleged Oregon Reform Journal its influence will be microscopic in Oregon.

What grudge had Salem against Astoria, to select all our big eaters and send them down to the G. A. R. encampment.

The Baker Democrat is in hopes that the cause of that city's dark streets will be investigated by St. Peter. The good man seldom gets so far away from home.

S. C. Walker: Ours will secure freedom from the tyranny of bossism in politics and the freedom from class legislation that grants to the aristocratic moneyed power all they require and refuses to recognize the demands of farmers and laborers.

Bound and gagged—Oregon development. By whom? The Pacific railways, which are taxing our produce all it will bear and using the capital to develop other states.

Even the corporations papers want to take a hand in helping the farmer's movement. The rascals are always trying to "help" the farmer. How much longer will farmers read and be deluded by their hypocrisy?

The attention of those portions of New England, reputed to possess plethora of matrimonially inclined women, is called to the fact that there are 170,000 more males than females on the Pacific coast.

The old-fashioned "organ" style of newspaper, that will advocate any reform or run a page for any organization to order for a compensation, is about played out. It exerts little influence in practical politics, and is a burden in place of a help in time of need.

Gen. Edmunds calls attention to the fact that if the Farmer's Alliance carries many states, without having an electoral majority, a democratic house will choose the next president. Edmunds seems to fall in with Ingalls in considering the alliance possibility.

Governor Hill stands upon the tariff dodging democratic platforms of 1876, 1884 and 1888—the tariff reform platform—while his letter ignores the tariff for revenue only platform of 1890, upon which Hancock was defeated.

Cleveland knocked the free-silver plank out from under the democratic party's feet and now Hill has knocked out the free-trade plank. As these gentlemen decline to stand upon such planks, the party must reconstruct its platform or reconstruct its leadership.

That really excellent paper, the Rural Press, complains of lack of support. It says:

"Patrons do you realize what a large and expensive work we are publishing for your welfare and how comparatively few are supporting or working for it in your grange? Surely we cannot always be expected to do so well for you and the cause, kind fellow-patrons, unless you in return give us a much larger patronage. What do you say? What will you do?"

The Rural Press is the official organ of the grange of California, Oregon and Washington, and of late also of the alliance.

GENERAL NEWS NOTES.

Tuesday was examination day at Bishop Scott's Academy.

The Open River convention is in session at Portland.

Mrs. Francis O'Neill of Allen county, Ohio, died suddenly Saturday morning. As deceased was apparently in the best of health up to the moment of her death, it was attributed to heart failure. Tuesday signs of returning life were noticed by the relatives. Her body became warm, and twitched convulsively. All the funeral arrangements, which had been made, were postponed, but up to this writing she has not recovered consciousness. The relatives have decided that, even if death appears certain, they will keep her remains in a ventilated vault until death is certain beyond peradventure. This action is on account of a similar occurrence in the case of her brother five years ago. Mr. Lawler, her brother, in 1886 died, apparently, and all arrangements were made for his burial. On the day set for the funeral he returned to life, and is today a prominent business man, and a leading politician. The relatives of Mrs. O'Neill fear that she may have experienced a trance, as did her brother.

Passengers who have just arrived in this city by steamer from Valparaiso declare the cause of the revolutionists is making progress. They assert that in that city the sentiment in favor of the revolutionary party is becoming very strong. It was generally expected when they left there that on the arrival of the fleet the troops now adhering to the Balmaceda government would renounce their allegiance and go over to the opposition. It is said Balmaceda realizes his cause is waning, from the fact that he is recruiting his forces from the prisons. Reports of the loss of life and property resulting from the revolutionary uprising which have reached the outside world, the passengers declare, are much exaggerated.

At a reception given to the college of cardinals Tuesday, at the Vatican, his holiness the pope asked Archbishop Walsh for news in regard to the situation of political and religious affairs in Ireland. The pope spoke with pleasure of the united action by the Irish bishops, and pronounced himself as being in warm sympathy with the Irish people, adding that he anxiously hoped the Irish people would maintain confidence in themselves and in their country, in spite of the present trials and difficulties to which Ireland and Irish were subject.

The relations of Parnell to Mrs. O'Shea have been rendered more mysterious than ever by recent reports. No declaration was made by Parnell himself, nor by any person authorized to speak for either person concerned, that he was to be married when the divorce was made absolute. That period is now at hand, and friends of both are anxious the ambiguous situation should be cleared up. Stories, with more or less foundation, culminated in a report Tuesday that a marriage with Mrs. O'Shea would not take place, as Parnell was already married to another lady. Astonishment was increased by a rumor that the lady in question is the daughter of Mrs. O'Shea, and the marriage took place in secret, because, among other reasons, the young lady was a ward in chancery. The latter story was rapidly spread in the lobbies of commons and is eagerly and variously discussed, but finds few believers.

The grand jury, at Dallas, Texas, has returned two indictments for criminal libel against Rev. Robert T. Hanks, a noted Baptist divine and editor of the Western Baptist. He is charged with libeling Rev. E. B. Hardy, L. R. Scroggs, S. R. Grant and A. L. Johnson, all prominent preachers of the same faith. The offense consists in having charged in his paper that the divines were paid, scandalous mongers of the Texas Baptist and Herald, and notorious liars. The indictments are the outcome of a bitter newspaper war between the Western Baptist and the Texas Baptist and Herald. The accused person declares that he will prove the allegations as true when the case goes to trial. The legal contest bids fair to become a sensational one. Mr. Hanks is one of the most eloquent preachers and forcible writers in Texas. He was raised in Alabama and located in Georgia and has filled pulpits in Alabama and Georgia and in this vicinity.

Secretary Foster has made the statement that he did not expect there would be a surplus in the treasury next year. The net surplus today is \$12,000,000. It is probable that within a short time the government deposits in national banks will be withdrawn.

Spring Medicine.

Dr. Gunn's Improved Liver Pills are especially adapted for correcting spring disorders, such as impure blood, tired brains and aching and worn-out body. They act promptly on the liver and kidneys, drive out all impurities from the blood, and malaria from the system. Only one pill for a dose. Try them this spring. Sold at 25 cents a box by Smith & Steiner.

TELEGRAPHIC DISPATCHES.

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

MISCELLANY.

KILLED BY HIS MISTRESS.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 8.—Maggie Getty, a young woman, 19 or 20 years of age, shot and killed William DeRose, better known as "La Chapelle," last night in the latter's saloon. No one, so far as heard of, witnessed the murder, an account of which is given by the woman herself. She and DeRose have been living together for some time past, and last night, so she says, he went home drunk and accused her of being too friendly with other men; then, suddenly seizing his pistol, he fired at her but missed her. She sprang upon him, and after a short struggle, succeeded in getting possession of the weapon and fired two shots at him, both of which struck him in the breast, causing death in a few moments. She locked up the house and was about to leave, when she was arrested by Officer Gordon. DeRose was about 45 years old.

TO GET AT THE BOTTOM.

WASHINGTON, April 8.—There is reason to believe that the government has decided to go to the bottom of the New Orleans affair, and with that end in view, has sent to that city a number of the best trained detectives in its employ, who are to act in connection with the United States attorney there and report to him. The whole matter is to be carefully investigated, beginning with the assassination of Chief Hennessey and ending with the killing of the accused men. The charges as to the existence of the Mafia in New Orleans, the charges of bribing the jurors whose verdict stirred the people to violence, and the quarrels between rival detective agencies there, are all to be weighed and reported upon by this experienced force in the government's pay. This course has been determined upon, it is said, because Mr. Blaine realizes that in the end, in order to be able to deal with the claims of Italy, he must know the whole story.

FRENCH SCHEME.

PARIS, April 8.—The French government has decided to appoint at all its embassies and legations abroad, in addition to their attaches, officers who are to be known as commercial attaches. It will be their duty to study the commerce and commercial relations of the country to which they are sent, and they will be expected at all times to be ready to make any investigations or answer any questions concerning the commercial affairs of the country they reside in. It is expected that this step, which has long been urged by merchants in France, will eventually lead to additional developments and improvements in the export and import trade of this country.

TWO WOMEN FOUND DEAD.

SAN FRANCISCO, N. M., April 8.—Details of a Sunday tragedy at White Oaks, N. M., reached here yesterday, the affair being a double suicide in which two young and handsome women, formerly of Liberty, Mo., were the actors. Some two years ago Miss Portia Hill came from Liberty to serve as governess in the family of Mrs. Ellis. At the end of a year she married Howard Doyle, a brother of Mrs. Ellis and a prominent ranchman. On their bridal tour they met an old friend of the bride, Miss Jessie Ridgley, who replaced Mrs. Doyle as governess in the Ellis home. Last Sunday Mrs. Doyle came on a visit to Miss Ridgley, and the two were seen in a long conversation at various times during the day, avoiding the other members of the family. In the afternoon they went for a walk, and in an old coral near by their dead bodies were discovered an hour later. Over the heart of each was a bullet hole. They were clasped in each other's arms, and between them was a revolver. No reason is known for the deed.

A LOVE MATCH.

LONDON, April 8.—A Vienna dispatch says the death of Count Frantz von Meran at Abbazia brings up one of the most romantic stories connected with the imperial families of Austria. The count was the issue of a marriage of the archduke John with a young lady named Fraulein Anna Plochel. The young lady was the daughter of a respectable tradesman of Vienna, and her beauty attracted the attention of the archduke while he was driving one day in the streets of the capital. Princes of the imperial house are noted for their gallantry almost without exception, but the archduke found Fraulein Plochel proof against his rank and blandishments. Being, desperately in love, he married her, thereby causing a great shock in court circles. The emperor at first was deeply aggrieved, but at length resolved to forgive the match, and raised the young woman to the