# THE CAPITAL JOURNAL.

PUBLISHED DAILY, EXCEPT SUNDAY, BY THE

Capital Journal Publishing Company.

Post-Office Block, Commercial Street.

HOFER BROTHERS, - - - Editors.

Daily, by carrier, per month.....$0 50
Daily, by mail, per year.....5 00
Weekly, 8 pages, per year.....1 50


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### THE ECONOMIC SITUATION.

The writer has studied long and hard, thought deep and inquired much and finds the following about the current situation of affairs:

| HIGH. | LOW. |
|---|---|
| Interest | Products |
| Taxes | Public Confidence |
| Real Estate | Money in Circulation |
| Rents | Demand for Labor |
| Wages | Investments |

There is some food for thought in this parallel. Those who wish can write long articles on the situation, but there is little use printing them. They are declined in advance.

### RENT, WAGES, PRODUCTS, MONEY AND GOVERNMENT.

Wages are high compared to the cost of necessaries of life, meat, flour, fruits, vegetables, manufactured goods and farm products.

Rents, land values and interest are unreasonably high and out of all proportion to profits on business or crops. That is one great cause of hard times. The inflation should be squeezed out just as the watered stocks should be eliminated.

Ten years ago an ounce of silver would buy a bushel of wheat. So would a gold dollar. Now an ounce of silver is worth a bushel of wheat and a gold dollar will buy nearly two bushels. A days wages at $1.50 could be bought with a bushel and a half of wheat; now it takes three bushels. We do not want to see wages reduced but there is a great disparity somewhere.

Government costs too much. In state and nation fabulous sums are made out of political offices. There must be an unloading of this burden. The producer cannot stand the strain of princely salaries and wasteful legislatures, the enormous bills of which run into the millions, and it all must come out of the soil.

There must be a return to Jeffersonian simplicity. The man who as a public official, trusted by the people, will work his position for all it is worth must be reminded of the necessity of smaller margins in office as well as in business and on the farm.

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the *New Shortening*, in place of lard. That's why PHYSICIANS RECOMMEND

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"My wife was sorely distressed with Constipation and coughing, followed with Bleeding Piles. After four months use of Simmons Liver Regulator she is almost entirely relieved, gaining strength and flesh."—W. B. LEEPER, Delaware, Ohio.

"I have used Simmons Liver Regulator for Constipation of my Bowels, caused by temporary derangement of the Liver, and always with decided benefit."—HIRAM WARNER, Late Chief Justice of Georgia.


### THE FRENCH WHIPPED.

As forecast in these columns, the French were whipped after the first exchange of shots with Siam. The suave, kindly reply of the monarch of the land of the white elephant was so just and right, and so strongly impregnated with the spirit of fairness that the bellicose blue-coats were forced to bluster and thus emphasized the weakness of their position.

Great Britain has acted the part of pacifier, while Germany and Russia have stood back with folded arms looking at each other. If Siam will commit no overt or foolish act she has France on the hips. France dare not begin an inexcusable war. The moral sentiment of mankind is against human slaughter of even such inconsequental inhabitants as those of the Malay peninsula.

### HOPS AND CROPS.

SALEM, July 29.

It is reported that buyers are offering to contract this year's hop crop in parts of Marion country at 18 cents.

THE JOURNAL will receive daily dispatches of all hop news by Associated Press as well as daily quotations:

HARRISBURG.

John Cartwright left a sample of an early variety of hops at the Courier office this week, that has excited the admiration of commissioners. The sample was covered with hops nearly ripe and is said to be one of the finest ever seen in Harrisburg.

SCIO.

Reports from our local hop yards are very encouraging. The crop is coming along nicely, and there are only a very few lice to be found. If these pests do not become numerous inside of two weeks, the crop is considered safe and above the average. The number of yards in this part of the country has increased to such an extent that the owners of yards are already making arrangements with the parties who pick for them.

WOODBURN.

Crop reports indicate a large yield of potatoes, hops in some places will yield 2500 pounds to the acre, and wheat through a little under the average will still be a good crop.

THAT HOP SCRIPT.

The hop-growers of Marion county have determined to keep themselves to a circulating medium. Each grower will issue script to the value of his credit, not exceeding $100, in denominations of one dollar. This will circulate in the vicinity, and is redeemable at the hop exchange which is to be established. The step is made necessary by the hoarding of coin by its present owners. Those engaged in this system of banking should be careful not to burn their fingers.—Exchange.

A number of papers copy the above. There is very little foundation for it. There will probably be no hop script issued unless times get much harder than at present. The bankers say they expect to be able to furnish money to market crops to reliable parties as they have always done.

Lebanon Express: It will only be a few weeks now until Oregon's hop growers and farmers will begin to draw money into Oregon from abroad. Then the stringency in the money market, already much easier, will loosen its grip.

Another car load of Weinhard beer arrived last night for the cold storage. This makes the seventh car load of this beer received here since the season opened.—Eugene Guard.

There will probably be a great deal of financial stringency among people who idle their time away at the beer counters, whether they be Populist or Republican, banker or farmer.

Over in the Puyallup country, the coming hop crop could now be sold at 18 cents. Many sprayers are running and the few lice doing little or no damage.

### SATURDAY NIGHT.

The presence of a one and a three ring circus in town starts a train of reverie that carries most of us back to the days of youth and immediately a doubt arises whether the old one ring circus of our boyhood days, that traveled across country by teams from town to town was not after all a more enjoyable affair than the so called monster railroad show. Are you not certain the clown was funnier in those days, the lemonade sweeter, and that peanuts had a richer flavor; the girls had redder cheeks and their muslin gowns and ribbons had a flutter we no longer see.

The circus came to town early in the morning, a long train of wagons made up of animal cages, band chariots and long reaching vehicles conveying the blue painted center poles and paraphernalia of the big tent and side show. They were generally a worn-out, sleepy looking crowd, people, horses, dogs and all. Then there followed the location of the show, the unloading, the setting up. Soon the hucksters stand was up, the side-show man was bawling, the street parade took place, and the crowds began streaming in from the country for the afternoon show. It is well once in a while to close our eyes and dream ourselves into the joyous past of childhood.

There were circuses from Noah's day. Our grandfather's youth in Germany was enlivened by a circus that bordered on the miracle plays of the medieval times. It was a traveling show called the "Old Woman Machine." For rollicking fun it beat many shows of the present day. His majesty, the old nick, presided over the strange performance which was rigged up to resemble one of our present day threshing machines, with a straw carrier extending high in air. It was operated by belts and machinery and a hopper at one end received the old women. Of course, they were not real old women, but boys dressed up to resemble toothless old hags with long necks, hawk-beak noses, and dressed in an outland ish manner, fit brides or grandmothers for his satanic highness who grinned diabolically as the procession of beauties approached. The character representing Satan had a pitchfork in one hand and a book in the other where he entered the names of those who were willing to sell their souls to him in order to get rid of their burden of years and be restored to youth and beauty. After all the ceremony of bargaining away their immortal part the fun began.

Satan who was a stout fellow would stick his fork into the panier of one of the old hags and toss her up into the air and she would fall into the hopper and disappear. A cloud of sulphurous smoke would arise, a bad smell would fill the air, the wheels of the old-woman machine would revolve amid great laughter of the crowd, and, presto! change, out of the straw-carrier at the other end would come, not a toothless old hag, but a beautiful, elegantly dressed, smiling young woman, pretty as a peach. Satan would politely hand her down for the crowd to inspect, feel of and talk to, and there was great merrymaking. Then another would be ground through and the devil would claim them all in succession as his bride. At the close of the performance the imitative Satan who was his own clown, advertiser, ring-master and manager, would clear away the crowd, close his tent and prepare his mysterious go-devil for the next day.

That was the funniest thing agoing in our grandfather's day early in the century in Europe. Of course, people were more simple-minded then than now. They were also more superstitious and the devil played a more important part in the affairs of everyone's life then than now. He was an active agent in religious matters. But the old-woman machine shows that they were already beginning to poke fun at him and look upon him as a wholesome source of amusement rather than an inspiration of terror, or of much moral importance. The devil would not be a drawing card in the modern circus. He would take a back seat probably as against many of the star features of a three-ringed show. He is still a part of the stock in trade of the ignorant and superstitious and we may all be very happy to be intelligent enough to get along without him, even as a part of our imaginings. The circus and society in general is probably a good deal improved in the past century and while we look into the roseate light of the past with many fond imaginings it is quite likely there is as much fun and expansion of the heart and real enjoyment of life in store for us now as ever if we only set about to take it.


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Sick Headache and relieve all the troubles incident to a bilious state of the system, such as Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Distress after eating, Pain in the Side, &c. While their most remarkable success has been shown in curing

SICK

Headache, yet CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS are equally valuable in Constipation, curing and preventing this annoying complaint, while they also correct all disorders of the stomach, stimulate the liver and regulate the bowels. Even if they only cured

HEAD

Ache they would be almost priceless to those who suffer from this distressing complaint; but fortunately their goodness does not end here, and those who once try them will find these little pills valuable in so many ways that they will not be willing to do without them. But after all sick head

ACHE

is the bane of so many lives that here is where we make our great boast. Our pills cure it while others do not.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS are very small and very easy to take. One or two pills make a dose. They are strictly vegetable and do not gripe or purge, but by their gentle action please all who use them. In vials at 25 cents; five for $1. Sold everywhere, or sent by mail.

CARTER MEDICINE CO., New York.

Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price.


### POSTOFFICE ANNALS.

1483—Richard III established a system of couriers all over England. Short stages were fixed, generally 15 or 20 miles, and the king's orders were dispatched by special messengers. These also sometimes carried letters, packages and messages for private persons.

1500—Butchers and drovers, who went about buying cattle, were in England the principal carriers of messages and correspondence.

1516—A letter and passenger post established between Brussels and Vienna by two stable owners. This line was subsequently extended to Venice, Genoa, Naples and also to many seaboard cities in the north.

1524—The French posts were permitted to carry letters for private persons, merchants and commercial agents.

1527—On the Spanish invasion of Peru a regular system of running posts was found in operation along all the public highways.

1543—The courier system was said at this time to be brought into a state of comparative perfection in England and France.

1581—In this year the postal system of England had been developed to such an extent that general supervision became necessary, and Queen Elizabeth appointed Thomas Randolph chief postmaster.

1619—Foreign postal arrangements having been considerably developed, Matthew de l'Equester was, in this year, appointed foreign postmaster by James I.

#### The Postman Poet.

Of the postman poet for whom Mr. Gladstone recommended a grant of £100 The Academy says: "James Dryden Hosken is a young Cornishman of Helston, self educated, except for a short time spent in an elementary school. Untrained to any trade, he found casual employment in east London during three or four years, part of which he spent as an outdoor officer in the customs. He then became a rural postman; then a sorter in the general postoffice, where his health failed, and he returned to his native place much shattered and broken. A partial recovery has enabled him to find partial employment as an auxiliary postman."

#### A Curiosity In Initials.

Apropos of the Christian names of Harvard college graduates, there is one name in the Harvard catalogue that would puzzle the average investigator of the subject were he not fully posted as to the facts in the case. It is a middle name, and it is simply "X," which is known in the law as the symbol for "his mark." In this instance, however, it stands for a $10 bill which was presented to the owner of the name on the day of his birth, and the acknowledgment of the gift appears in the recipient's name unto this day.—Boston Herald.

#### In a Library Catalogue.

The latest joke on a public library branch, that shall be nameless to spare the feelings of those most concerned, is embodied in the following quotation from its catagogue:

"Mill—On Liberty" (in the line below) "ditto—On the Floss." Shade of George Eliot!—Boston Globe.

#### Value of a Good Digestion.

A man with a good digestion is more likely to be true and loving and charitable and honorable than one who has ruined his temper and digestion together, and since one of the best assistants to digestion is a good use of the teeth let us calmly sit down to our dinner as our English friends do, and as we enjoy our meal rebuff any whispers of wasted time by remembering that if the body is not cared for the mind and soul go wrong; that to eat and drink and sleep and bathe well will not only make us healthier and handsomer, but as a consequence, smarter and better. A good digestion makes a good man, and though there may be demons who chew their food well there never was an angel who did not masticate his.—New York Ledger.

### THE SEDAN CHAIR.

#### History of the Curious Vehicle That Fashion Is Trying to Revive.

When his holiness the pope is carried in his chair on poles supported on the shoulders of 12 servitors from the Sala Regia to the Sistine chapel and occasionally into the loggia above the portico of St. Peter's, he practically uses a sedan without a roof, and it was in these chairs on poles that the Roman magnificoes sneered at by Juvenal were borne through the crowded streets of Rome. These uncovered sedans must not be confounded with the ancient litters, which very much resembled in shape the palanquin which may be seen every day in the streets of Calcutta and which were a kind of bed wherein the inmate reclined either on his elbow or at full length.

Wealthy Romans when they traveled through the provinces of the empire sat in a covered sedan chair during the day and lay in a covered litter throughout the night. It is a curious fact as regards the oriental palanquin that in 1751 the court of directors of the East India company ordered that their covenanted servants should "lay aside the expense of either horse, chair or palanquin during their writership" on the ground that indulging these embryo nabobs with chairs on poles borne by coolies contributed not a little to "the neglect of business and afforded them opportunities for rambling."

Little more than half a century afterward we find the frugal and self denying Sir Arthur Wellesley writing to Major Shaw to give orders for a palanquin to be made for him. Precise in this as in most other matters, the hero of Assaye directed that his palanquin should be "very light;" that the panels should be made of "canvas instead of wood and the poles fixed as for a dhoolie." "Your Bengali palanquins," adds the future victor of Waterloo, "are so heavy that they cannot be used out of Calcutta."

To a traveler of moderate means the principle expense of the palanquin was in the number of relays or bearers required to carry it. This mattered little to the Romans since the bearers were nearly always slaves, and the price of labor in Hindostan is moderate enough to warrent the employment of a large number of bearers, but in France in the seventeenth century there was a Duchess of Nemours who half ruined herself by her craze for traveling backward and forward in her sedan to her principality of Neufchatel, which was situated at a distance of 130 leagues from Paris. Relays of bearers amounting in the aggregate to 50 men always accompanied the duchess on these journeys, one of which took 10 days to accomplish, and the cost of paying, lodging and feeding these retainers was necessarily prodigious.

French experts stoutly maintain that the sedan chair was invented by La Reine Margot, the first wife of Henry IV, but it can only be proved that the sprightly queen in question availed herself so constantly of the facilities offered by an uncovered sedan that it is almost to be wondered at that the vehicle did not come to be called a "margot" instead of a "chaise a porteurs." In any case it is certain that the first covered and closed sedans were introduced into France at the beginning of the reign of Louis XIII by the Marquis de Montbrun and that shortly afterward a concession for building them was granted to three Parisian financiers.—London Telegraph.

#### A Peaceable Use For Gun Barrels.

The demand for wrought iron pipe began with the invention of illuminating gas, but the introduction of illuminating gas at first was very slow in consequence of prejudice and want of appreciation of its importance. About the time of the invention of illuminating gas, which was in the latter part of the seventeenth century, the long war between England and France was drawing to a close. It had made a great demand for gun barrels, which were largely made at Wednesbury, England, and at its close it left a large amount of this stock on the market, which (there being no other demand for it) was used for the small gas tubes by screwing the small end of one tube into the large end of another. This supply apparently covered the demand for small tubes for some time, and the larger ones were made in the same manner.—Iron Age.

#### Influence of Free Libraries.

As a matter of fact, since the establishment of free libraries there has been a manifest improvement in the class of books read. Librarians tell us that history is more in demand, and that the best books are gradually superseding in the estimation of the people those which might be considered of a less favorable tendency. This is good news, but there is still much room for improvement, and only in proportion as we realize our individual responsibility in this matter and act up to it shall we be able to help to raise the tone of the public taste, for it is certain that degrading and vicious literature is supplied in answer to a demand, although it is probably just as sadly certain that writers and purveyors, finding that such a demand exists, do not hesitate to lead the way where formerly they cautiously felt it.—Chambers' Journal.


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