

EDITORIAL.

The protest against the exhibition of demoralizing pictures is taking form in various parts of the country. In the New York legislature the Ellisworth bill would protect people against being caricatured without their consent. The proposed law is aimed at the cartoon business in newspapers. Just where to draw the indistinct line between the comic newspaper and the brutal caricature, if not vicious misrepresentation of public men is the question. There is a legitimate use of the cartoon. The propriety of a burlesque cannot be doubted. It is fairly to be questioned if the power to discriminate between what is proper and what is improper in newspaper illustration can be left to government censorship. It would be but a step to a censorship of written words from a censorship of pictures. It seems but just at first sight to prohibit the vitascope and the verascope-electrical instruments for reproducing the recent prizefight between Corbett and Fitzsimmons. Exhibitions that are forbidden by the laws of the states are now to be reproduced in those states. It cannot be done without a moral lesson. But is not society suffering from moral infractions and lesions at all times and not alone from the cruel sport known as prizefighting. To the minds of many persons a prizefight conducted according to rules is a fairer and more honorable proceeding than a so-called reeveship where a man becomes administrator of his own bankruptcy, the latter often voluntary and entered into to defraud innocent creditors. This is only referred to in order that may see how the moral sense is blunted by custom and not by an abstract sense of justice or moral right or wrong. After the prizefight has been accurately described and pictured for weeks before and weeks after—until it has become the predominant current event in the public mind it is not to be represented by the Edison invention. The motive for such legislation is good. But is safe to entrust any such power in the government as the determining what may and may not be exhibited unless it be the lewd and indecent? We do not decide the question; we raise it. Can cartoons be prohibited? Can the kinetoscope, the animatroscope, the vitascope and the verascope and the instantaneous photograph be suppressed? Are these things in the line of progress or degradation?

JOURNAL "X" RAYS.

Directed Upon the Oregon Politicians and Public Men.

Some of the most pointed personalities are written by the most humane man in the world—Geo. T. Angell. In his last "Our Dumb Animals" he has these paragraphs: The attack of Senator Pettigrew of South Dakota on New England [where by the way, he himself was born] and which was so admirably replied to by our good friend Senator Hoar, reminds us of the young man who wrote to his father, "Better come out West, dad, for lots of mean men get into office out here." To be sure some are left, for we see in our morning paper that Russell Sage has just foreclosed a \$50 mortgage against his brother, who is aged and poor. This is the same Sage who protected his child some would say worthless life, by thrusting a poor young man between himself and an exploding bomb, and refused to pay the young man a cent for the terrible injuries he received. To be sure he presented a \$100 bill to the Gould girl when she married the French feller, and we remember reading that "charity covereth a multitude of sins."

Mayor Richardson started out in a shape but his backbone gave out.

Eugene State Journal: "Small boys should take note of this. The governor of Oregon does not use tobacco in any form; neither does his private secretary, Mr. Willis Dunaway. The secretary of state, Mr. Kincaid, does not use tobacco in any form, neither does his chief clerk, Mr. Lockwood. Judge Robert S. Beas, several times

chief justice of Oregon and now associate justice uses no tobacco. General Odell, state school land agent, and Hon. Tim Davenport, state land agent, are total abstemious as regards tobacco and strong drinks. The state printer of Oregon, Hon. W. H. Leeds, does not use tobacco. Mr. Claude Gatch, of Salem, cashier of the second largest bank in Oregon does not use tobacco or strong drink."

The N Ray man does not use tobacco and he does not eat hay, and he has other virtues besides.

In one respect the prizefight was superior to the average legislature. Nobody says either side was bought off.

Jacksonville Times: Gen. H. B. Compson, railroad commissioner, lately received from Washington the ribbon and knot prescribed to be worn with the medals of honor authorized by the acts of congress of July, 1862, and March, 1863. He was awarded a medal for conspicuous gallantry in the battle of Waynesboro, when in command of the eighth New York cavalry he led his regiment against the center of the Confederate forces and broke it, capturing many prisoners, guns, flags, etc.

Roseburg Review: Chas. K. Wilkinson, who was elected to the legislature from Lane county four years ago, before he was twenty-one years old, and later held a position in the Portland custom house, has opened a law office at Phoenix, Arizona.

Eastern Oregon Observer: The Joseph Herald says that in his speech the Hon. C. E. Jennings, in explaining the situation at the capital on his return home to his constituents, said, "As he places the responsibility not on any one political party, but more on the Salem ring." As Mr. Jennings was one of Senator Mitchell's supporters, this statement is out of the ordinary, as this is the first honest statement we have heard on the situation coming from the Mitchell camp. Almost to a man they have tried to lay the blame of the entire help-up at the door of 13 Populist members. What per cent is 13 of 60, anyway?

Marshfield News: If partonage will win the votes of the silver Republican and Populist senators King Hanna is prepared to bid high for them. Without some of them the Republicans will find themselves in an unpleasant predicament at the extra session of Congress.

Exchange: The appointment of Mr. T. R. Sheridan to be local member of the Oregon soldiers' home board indicates that Governor Lord desires to inaugurate a business administration of that institution. Mr. Sheridan is a gentleman of known business qualifications and unquestioned honesty and integrity. The selection could not have been improved upon.

Harvey Scott on Corbett's defeat: California is inconsolable. Our Niobe of states is childless and crowdless, though not voiceless, in her woe—for she screams and howls between her sobs, "Jim is whipped and California is undone!" What now can make life worth living to the true son of California? Nothing but some new sensation, like a murder in church, or a scandal about the supposititious heir of a bonanza estate, or some discovery to show how oldest sins may be committed in newest kinds of ways.

The appointment of Mr. McKenna by President Cleveland is not looked upon with favor by the A. P. A. For the first time in many years he is the first Roman Catholic to occupy a position in the cabinet. Eastern Oregon Observer, Pop. One of the most commendable and independent acts of McKinley so far.

Albany Democrat: Mr. Owen P. Dabney, of Salem, has published a book entitled "The Lost Shackle, or Seven Years Among the Indians." It is a story of Montana pioneer life, based upon facts, and is very thrilling. A lovely daughter disappears and is hunted by an only son in a neighbor's family. The book is meeting with quite a sale.

Some one writing from Salem to an Eugene paper has this: Governor Lord of Oregon is perhaps the best posted man in Oregon on the social and political conditions of the eastern states. He reads much and grasps the important points of news quickly. It is no uncommon thing to enter his private office and find the floor literally covered with newspapers and magazines which he has inspected, read portions of, and thrown down to be burned.

EVANGELICAL CHURCH.—Presiding Elder N. Shupp, of Portland, will preach at the Evangelical church corner of Seventeenth and Chemeketa streets this, Thursday, evening at 8 o'clock. On Sunday evening he will conduct a communion service.

See Town Topics.

STATE NEWS.

The world's viable wheat supply decreased 4,963,000 bushels the past week.

Mrs. Rebecca Cochran, of Oregon City, has filed a suit for divorce after a union of nearly 45 years.

Nancy H. Childs, daughter of the Josephine county judge, was adjudged insane and placed in the asylum.

Carl Jones, a young man, was held up by two hobos in Baker City, last Friday and robbed of a cheap watch.

A large quantity of flax will be sown around Scio, this year, considerable having been given the farmers for that purpose.

The baby sturgeon is safe on the Columbia. The legislature of Washington protects any sturgeon under three feet in length.

Mrs. James Shearer, 56 years of age, living north of Forest Grove, fell upon the floor at her home and broke her left arm at the wrist.

Snow is reported fifteen feet deep at the Union-Companion mine at Cornucopia. In the other camps there is an equal abundance.

Septimus Spencer of Irving precinct, has commenced foreclosure proceedings against the Corvallis Opera House. The amount sued for is \$1200.

John J. Kelly, of Eugene, is sick at Springfield. The case is considered critical. Mr. Kelly is one of the most prominent pioneers of this state.

The city recorder of Pendleton has collected from the patrons of the city waterworks nearly \$1000 this month. He has also issued 50 dog licenses.

Chester Thompson shot an eagle with a revolver, on the Siuslaw, last week. The bird measured seven feet from tip to tip and weighed 10 pounds.

The new five-mile ditch, of Alex. Watts, in Williams valley, has been finished. It will be used for mining in the winter and for irrigation in the summer.

The Portland Hibernian Benevolent society has been sued by Frank Hackney, receiver of the late Union bank for \$2,400, being for money advanced in 1891.

Mrs. Anna Crumbacker Stewart died near Forest Grove aged 78. She crossed the plains in 1848 and settled in Yamhill county where she resided until death.

Joseph Lane, of Eugene, died at his home on March 22, of consumption. He was 59 years of age and had been confined to the house for many months by consumption.

A deer and a bear were running loose, in Roseburg, one day last week, presenting a wild and woolly appearance. Both belonged to citizens of the town and got loose.

John Coch, an old resident of Tillamook county, committed suicide. He first cut his right wrist to the bone and then cut his throat. He was found by his wife while yet warm.

A fund is to be raised in Wasco, Gilliam, Crook and Sherman counties to send a delegate to Washington to lobby for the opening of the Cascade timber reserve for herding stock on.

The sheriff of Crook county prevented a jailbreak last week by discovering in time a hole in the jail wall that one of the prisoners had dug out with a caseknife.

Albert Mitchell, a Newberg lad, was convicted before Justice McPhillips, in McMinnville Saturday, of larceny of chickens, and on failure to pay a fine of \$30 and costs, was given 15 days in jail.

Judge Sparcus, of Pendleton, was arrested last Thursday and taken to Nebraska, where he is wanted for unlawfully converting to his own use \$1,000, the property of a Nebraska firm.

The general land office has notified the register and receiver, under date of March 17, that hereafter Menaloose island will be the official burying-ground for the Warm Springs Indians.

In Portland a tombstone was recently sold by the sheriff to satisfy a judgment, but the purchaser has not dared to remove the property as he cannot get the consent from the cemetery association.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Coats became involved in a quarrel at their home at Oakville. Mrs. Coats discharged a shotgun load into his back and one load into his legs. He walked a mile and a half after being shot. Mrs. Coats is yet free.

The Astoria water commission has made a contract with A. L. Adams, of that place, the engineer formerly in charge of the construction of the water works, to complete the work of establishing the electric lighting plant to furnish lights for the city.

Secretary Shanahan of the Oregon Humane society at Portland in a vigorous public announcement warns the boys who are in the habit of wantonly destroying the song birds that they had better desist, or they will be punished, as the law provides, for their offenses.

It has been estimated by close observers that there is at least \$10,000

due the city treasury for violations of the "Spit" ordinance up to date. If a policeman, working on commission; was kept on the trail of the spitters, he would break the town in a month. —Astoria Budget.

There will be an election at Woodburn on April 5th to elect a mayor for one year and two councilmen for two years' term also a recorder, treasurer and city marshal for one year each. The question of giving women the right of franchise in the city will be voted upon.

The statement of two national banks of La Grande show that on March 9, there was actual cash on hand amounting to \$67,000, and available cash assets amounting to about \$125,000. In each institution the available assets amount to about 50 per cent of the liabilities, while the legal requirement is but 15 per cent. The deposits aggregate nearly \$230,000.

Those that know say there are three men in Salem that have a record of drinking five gallons of beer per day. This means 1,825 gallons per year. These gentlemen in 20 years would consume 36,500 gallons. If the population of this country were of same capacity in this respect, the navies of the world could be floated in the amount of beer they would drink.

THE CAUSE IS UNKNOWN

Why Geo. Bane of Polk County Hung Himself.

ED. JOURNAL:—Some weeks ago, when Geo. Bane, of Spring Valley, committed suicide by hanging himself, the morning paper at Salem had a statement purporting to have come from F. G. McClench, which was erroneous, and a great injustice to friends of the deceased. This statement said Mr. Bane's grandmother, Mrs. M. A. Gholson, had reprimanded the young man for keeping company with a certain young lady, and that this fact led to his rash deed. The truth is, nothing of the sort ever took place and whoever reported the same committed a serious injury. The real cause of the strange act is unknown but that should not license anyone to traduce others by insinuation or otherwise. J. B. GHOLSON. Zena, March 25, 1897.

AUMSVILLE.

Mr. Lou Miller received a telegram from Sheridan that his son Roy was drowned in Salmon river last Saturday. It gave no particulars but Pearl Miller and Harry Helmeke started immediately to find out the situation and will bring the body home for burial if it has been found.

Quite an exciting scene occurred on our streets last Thursday when F. L. Pound's carriage horse got away from him at the mill and ran through the town with the carriage attached. No one was hurt, but the carriage and harness was almost a complete wreck.

George Rose was down from Whitaker last week visiting friends.

Roy Cashatt, of Mehama, passed through the town Monday on his way to Silvertown.

Miss Mona Lee called and took dinner with friends while on her way from her home near Marion to visit her sister near Sublimity.

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